Why This Story?

Students listen to short stories and identify why each writer told them.

K.RL.6 "Identify the author's purpose for writing a story with prompting and support."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 LISTEN FIRST

a | laugh | learn | wonder

b | wonder | learn | laugh

2 FIND CLUES

a | learn | laugh | wonder

b | wonder | laugh | learn

ANSWER KEY

Why This Story?

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each story and its three choices aloud. Ask students what in the story helps them decide why the writer wrote it, then have them circle one word. Note any rereading or hints you give separately from their answers.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · LISTEN FIRST

SAY "Listen to each short story. Think about why the writer told it, then circle one word."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	A crab put socks on its claws. It tried to clap, but the socks went flop, flop! The crab said, 'My claws are too sleepy!' Which word tells why the writer wrote this story: laugh, learn, or wonder?	**laugh**
b	Milo grabbed all the crayons. His friend had none. Milo gave her half, and they both drew. Which word tells why the writer wrote this story: wonder, learn, or laugh?	**learn**

PART 2 · FIND CLUES

SAY "Listen to each story. Tell me one clue that helps you decide why the writer told it, then circle one word."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	At night, a small door appeared in a tree. A soft blue light shone through it. What could be behind the door? Which word tells why the writer wrote this story: learn, laugh, or wonder?	**wonder**
b	A shoe sat on a chair. 'I am the king!' said the shoe. Then it fell off the chair with a thump. Which word tells why the writer wrote this story: wonder, laugh, or learn?	**laugh**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

In row order, accept laugh, learn, wonder, laugh. For oral clues, accept a story detail that supports the circled purpose, such as sharing crayons for learn or the hidden door for wonder.