Unit 4 Skill Focus: Compare and Contrast

Unit 4 Theme: Past and Present

Text 1

At the Fair

Mario had always wanted to go to a fair. One day, a fair came to town, so Grandpa took him. When they arrived at the fair, Grandpa said, "When I was young, we didn't have a Slippery Dippery. We had donkey rides instead. But we did have a Ferris wheel."

"I want to go on the Slippery Dippery first!" said Mario. "Whoosh!" he said when he got off. "I feel a bit dizzy," he said. "I'll go next!" said Grandpa. "Whoosh!" "I feel a bit wobbly," Grandpa said. "Maybe a ride on the Ferris wheel will make us feel better," said Mario. What different games did Mario and Grandpa play?

Text 2

The Weirdest Bike Ever!

Our class went to the history museum yesterday. We saw a model of one of the first bikes ever built. It was all wood and did not have any metal. My bike has lots of metal. It had two wheels, the same as mine. It had spokes, like mine, but it did not have any pedals! The riders had to put their feet on the ground and scoot themselves along. The seat of the old bike wasn't soft like mine. It was wooden. Ouch! The old bike didn't have any brakes like bikes have now. The riders had to stop moving by dragging their feet along the ground. I bet that hurt going down hills! The old bike couldn't turn because the handlebars weren't attached to the wheel. It looked more like a rocking horse than a real bike. I'm glad I have my bike to ride!

Text 3

Two Boys

Up in the attic, I found some photos in a dusty box. One photo shows a boy and his dad in a funny old car. They look a little like Dad and me, but our car is more modern than that. In another photo, they are eating a turkey dinner. They're having a good time, just like we do at big family meals. In another photo, they are washing the dishes. I'm glad we have a dishwasher.

Text 4

Two Bedrooms

Now

My bedroom is white and my carpet is red. Spaceships fly over the quilt on my bed. My desk and computer are right by the door. My books and my teddy bear sit on the floor. Gran's bedroom was yellow, her wood floor was bare. Her desk had a pen and some ink and a chair. Her books and her teddy bear sat on the shelf. Her mother had sewn the blue quilt by herself.

Text 5

What was the biggest difference between the two rooms?

Text 6

Carlsbad Cavern

Scaffolding Level: MODELING GUIDED COACHING/INDEPENDENT

Scaffolding Level: INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT

Note: This Sample lesson contains the first 7 pages of the Comprehension Library reader Carlsbad Cavern. The complete text contains 24 pages.
Skill Focus—Compare and Contrast

How are bats and birds alike?

1. Draw a Venn diagram like the one below. Fill in facts about bats in the circle on the left. Fill in facts about birds in the circle on the right. Write how they are the same in the middle.

2. Why do bats and birds travel to Carlsbad Cavern?

3. Name three things that bats eat and three things that birds eat.

4. Would you like to visit Carlsbad Cavern? Why?
Introduction

Every year, thousands of people visit Carlsbad Cavern in New Mexico. Carlsbad Cavern is one of the world's largest caves. For part of the year, it is also home to more than one type of animal.

Visitors at Carlsbad Cavern

The inside of Carlsbad Cavern

Bats and birds don't normally live together. However, every summer, cave swallows and Mexican free-tailed bats make Carlsbad Cavern their home.

Note: These pages have been modified for ease of viewing and downloading. Actual size of reader: 5 in. x 8.25 in.
What Do Bats and Birds Look Like?

Bats have furry bodies with short legs and feet. Some bats have weak legs and don’t use them to walk. But all bats use their legs and feet to hang from branches and rocks. Each foot has five toes and claws that help them to grip when they are hanging upside down.

Bats’ bodies are covered with feathers. Like bats, they have legs and feet. Birds use them to walk or hop along. Most birds have only four toes with claws. Like bats, many birds have short legs. But birds that are fast runners or wade through water have long legs.

Graphic Organizer and Questions

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