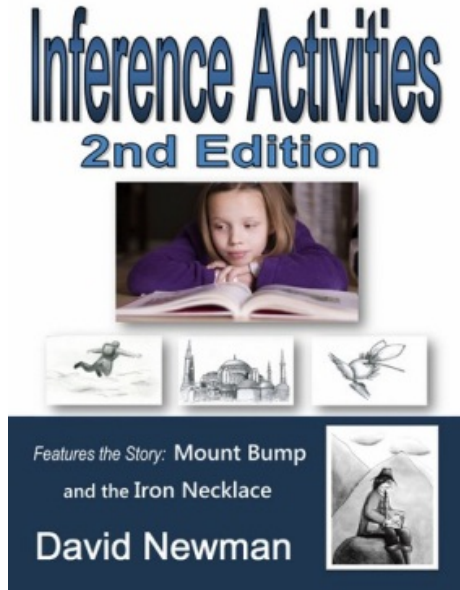


Inference Activities

2nd Edition

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Thank you for taking the time to look at the **Inference Activities 2nd Edition** program. All of the activities have been tested with school-age students over the last 2 years.

The questions and activities in the program have been designed to be user-friendly. The activities will stimulate your students' **inference** and **thinking skills**.

Included in this brochure are the book's **table of contents** and thumbnails of some of the exercises in the program to give you a *sense* of the book, and a feel for some of the activities contained within its pages.

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Inference Activities 2nd Edition - Important Additions...

This new edition of Inference Activities has many important and substantial updates.

- The 2nd Edition includes new material on *Communicative Reading Strategies* and features an inference pre and post-test. Also included are progress charts to track your students' progress as they work through each chapter.
- The 2nd Edition book has newly expanded and improved *fiction* and *non-fiction* scenarios. Many of the scenarios feature up to eight detailed inference questions to expand and stretch your students' inference abilities. *The 2nd Edition book has 832 inference questions in total.*
- The new edition of Inference Activities contains the fiction story, *Mount Bump and the Iron Necklace*, which is a unique opportunity to explore multiple inference and comprehension questions based on a complex and detailed original story.

Feel free to print out
and use the bonus
inference activities
from the **Inference
Activities 2nd Edition**
book below...

Paragraph Level

Inference and *Fiction*



Science Fiction & Fantasy

Six: *Prince Angus*

The castle courtyard was quiet - too quiet. Prince Angus felt a shiver go up his spine as he walked across the ancient and crumbling castle grounds. He silently and carefully drew his sword from its leather sheath. Without warning, a massive green scaled creature, as big as a barn, soared high above the castle. Its great bulk momentarily blocked the sun's light. Its taloned claws then slammed onto the courtyard stones, splintering the stones into shards. The beast launched its attack. Flames poured forth from its furnace like maw in a long stream of fire. Only his shield prevented the prince from being engulfed in the inferno.

Entry Level Inference

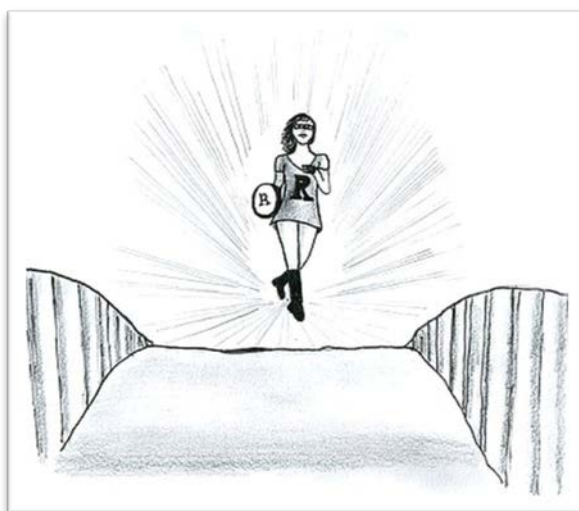
- a. What type of mythical beast is being described here?
- b. Do people live at the castle? How do we know that?
- c. Was the prince's shield large or small? How do you know that?
- d. Why did the prince draw his sword silently and carefully?

Deep Level Inference

- e. Why did a shiver go up Prince Angus's spine?
- f. Was the beast a large creature? How do we know this?
- g. Why did the character believe the castle grounds were too quiet?
- h. Is the beast dangerous and will Prince Angus have difficulty defeating it? Why do you think this?

Paragraph Level

Inference and *Fiction*



Adventure

One: *Top of the Mast*

The captain ordered me to the top of the main mast. The main sail needed to be secured unless it ripped from the constant pounding of the savage gusts. I climbed the ship's rigging to the top almost blinded by the rain which lashed my unprotected face. The wind howled. Its sharp frigid fingers stabbed at my shirt, making it ripple fiercely. The swell pounded against the ship's wooden beams. Each wave thrust the ship to the side and the main mast shivered, nearly tossing me down into the violence of the sea. I hung onto the mast for dear life, determined to do my job.

Entry Level Inference

- a. What was the weather like? How do you know that?
- b. Is the character frightened? How do you know that?
- c. Is the character cold? What tells us this?
- d. Is the character in any danger at the top of the mast? What tells us this?

Deep Level Inference

- e. What type of ship is the character on? What tells us this?
- f. What may happen to the mainsail if it is not successfully secured?
- g. Why do you think the character is determined to do his job? Why doesn't he just climb back down?
- h. Why do you think the captain ordered the character to do such a dangerous job?

Paragraph Level

Inference and

Non-Fiction



Plants

Five: *Venus Flytrap*

Not all plants rely on photosynthesis for their food. The Venus flytrap consumes unsuspecting insects. To an insect the Venus Flytrap looks to be an attractive plant with the promise of nectar. But the plant's appearance is a trap. The plant waits for the insect to settle on its leaf tip then springs shut, quick as a flash. The trap shuts in less than a second. If the trap closes on something other than a fly or insect, such as a nut, the trap will effectively cast out the item. People have always been fascinated by the Venus Flytrap, as such there are few left in the wild. The Venus Flytrap is native to Southern Carolina in the United States, but many now grow in private greenhouses.

Entry Level Inference

- a. Why does the design of a Venus Flytrap have such an attractive look to insects?
- b. Why would the leaf tips need to spring shut quickly?
- c. What might happen to a piece of bark if it fell into a Venus Flytrap?
- d. Does the Venus Flytrap rely on photosynthesis for its energy?

Deep Level Inference

- e. What may an unsuspecting fly do if the trap took *two seconds* to close?
- f. Why do you think the Venus Flytrap is considered a fascinating plant?
- g. Why do you think there are so few Venus Flytrap's left in the wild?
- h. Is the Venus Flytrap found in the wild in all parts of the world?

Text Level Inference

Fiction



***Story:* Mount Bump and the Iron
Necklace**

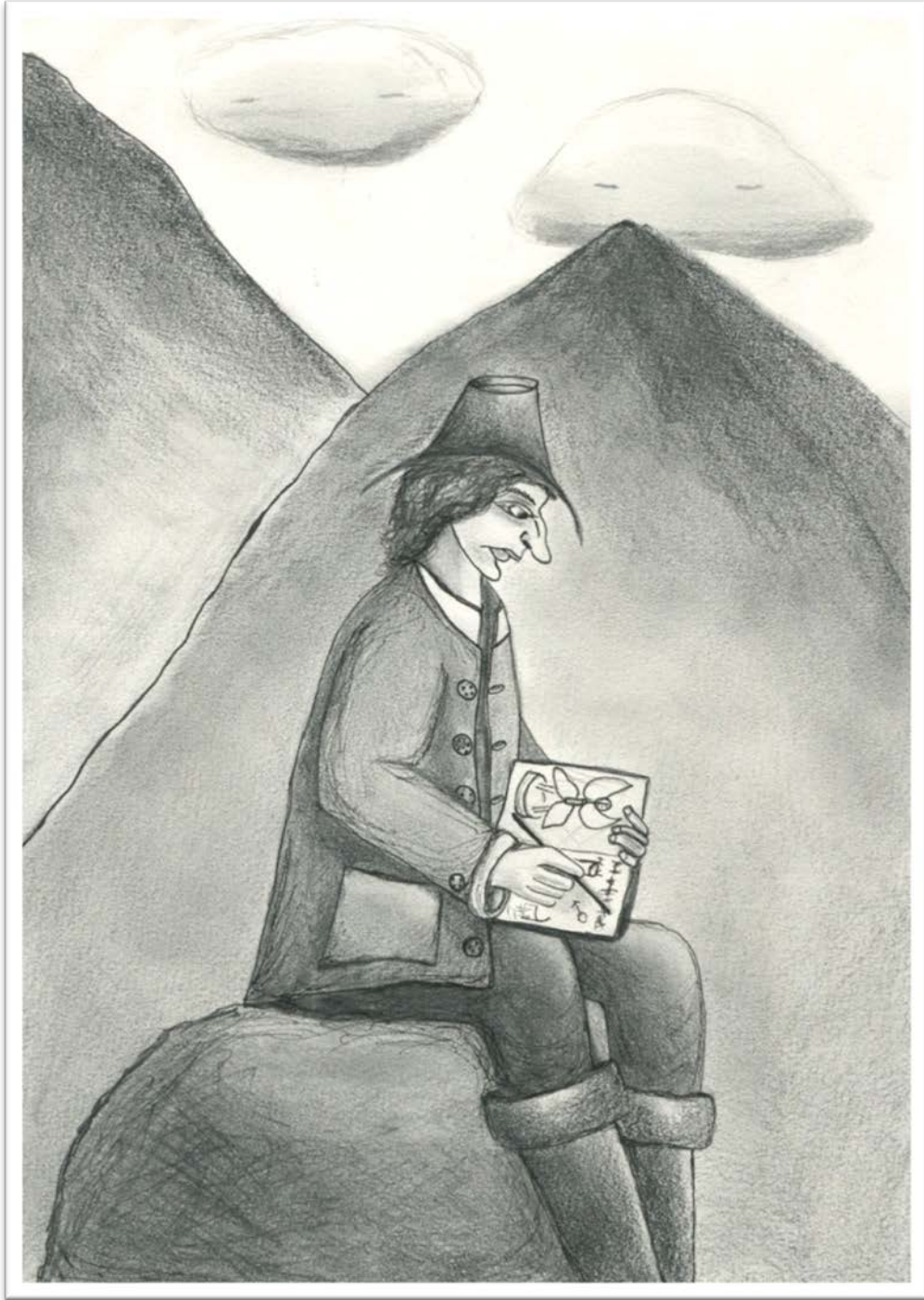
Scene One: *The Little Mountain*

Winter had always been an unhappy time for Mount Bump. The little mountain wanted snow dusted on its peak from the cloud angels that floated above. Mount Bump watched as year after year winter snow fell on the mountains which loomed above. The tall peaks accepted the snow in silence. The little mountain, however, was not silent. It puffed and rumbled to gain the cloud angels' attention. But the clouds took no notice. They never dusted snow on Mount Bump. The little mountain was too small and too odd. Strange smoke curled from its strange, stunted peak after all. It was not really a mountain, the clouds decided, it was a *hill*



Scene Two: *Albert Hackensack*

One early autumn morning the inventor, Albert Hackensack, climbed to the top of Mount Bump. As he peered at the peaks that loomed over the little mountain, a thought took shape in the inventor's crafty mind. He reached into his coat pocket for his measuring tape. Excited, he unravelled it. He spent the day walking around Mount Bump's rocky base. He paused only to scribble words and pictures into a notebook. The shadows were long and the sun had disappeared when Hackensack finally returned to his village. At home, he copied his notes and drawings onto fresh paper and got to work that night.



Scene One: *The Little Mountain*

Entry Level Inference

- a. Why did the clouds not dust snow on Mount Bump?
- b. Why did the clouds believe Mount Bump was more like a hill than a mountain?
- c. What type of mountain do you think Mount Bump is?

Deep Level Inference

- d. Why do you think winter had always been an unhappy time for Mount Bump?
- e. Why do you think the clouds are referred to as angels?
- f. Why do you think it was so important to Mount Bump that he be treated the same as the bigger mountains?

Scene Two: *Albert Hackensack*

Entry Level Inference

- a. Was Hackensack on the mountain all day? What tells us this?
- b. Was Hackensack busy this particular day?
- c. Did Hackensack work alone on the mountain? How do we know this?

Deep Level Inference

- d. Why do you think Hackensack needed to pause to scribble notes into a notebook?
- e. At about what time do you think the inventor arrived in his village?
- f. What could it mean that Hackensack *got to work that very night*?