

LEARNING STATION



READING PASSAGE



SQUIRRELS

Squirrels are extremely interesting animals. That's because they are incredibly adaptable. They live in a variety of places. While they may seem most suited for a dense woodland environment, many types of squirrels have adapted to living in cities like New York City! One scientist found that squirrels in the city are much more comfortable with humans. This is a good thing because there are more people living in cities. Rather than running away when humans approach them in rural environments, urban squirrels only run when they feel people's eyes intently watching them.

Squirrels are also amazing planners. Their ability to plan ahead has helped them to survive as a species for over 37 million years in North America. Each day, squirrels collect nuts and seeds. Then, they "squirrel" them away in different spots for use in the winter. Their stashes will help them survive when resources are scarce in the winter.

Putting together a WRITTEN RESPONSE

LEARNING STATION



1. Read the "Squirrels" passage.
2. Then, cut out the sentences in the boxes below.
3. Sort the sentences into the READ chart on the chart page at this center.
4. You'll see that one element of the READ strategy is missing from each response question.
5. Your job is to write a sentence to fill in the missing READ element.
6. Review and share your responses with your group.



Cut out the sentences that can be used to write a response for the question:

In what ways are squirrels adaptable?

Therefore, squirrels have adapted to live in various environments.

Squirrels are adaptable animals because they can live in a variety of places.

For instance, squirrels in cities are more tolerant of humans than squirrels in rural environments.



This technique demonstrates how squirrels plan ahead for when food is scarce.

A squirrel's ability to plan ahead helps it to survive because it stores food for when food is less available.

Clearly, the squirrel's ability to plan ahead ensures that it has food every day of its life.

Cut out the sentences that can be used to write a response for the question:

How does a squirrel's ability to plan ahead help it to survive?

Name _____

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Putting together a **WRITTEN RESPONSE**

In what ways are squirrels adaptable?

R	
E	
A	
D	

How does a squirrel's ability to plan ahead help it to survive?

R	
E	
A	
D	