

The

Lorax



Unit for Grades K-5



By Rachel Friedrich at Sub Hub
<http://subhubonline.blogspot.com/>

How to use These Lessons

These lessons can be used to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2, the movie "The Lorax," Earth Day, or anytime you want to inject a little Seuss into your class. They make great lessons to leave for a substitute since they offer something a little different and use very few materials. They can be used as is for grades 2-4, or could be modified for kindergarten, first, and fifth grade. Included are lessons in:

- Reading
- Language arts
- Social studies
- Science
- Math

Materials Needed

- Copy of The Lorax by Dr. Seuss
- Copies of any printables you choose to use
- Money manipulatives if you choose that Math lesson
- Paper of various kinds



Reading

Read The Lorax or review. Complete a reading activity each day. Here are some suggested topics and activities.

Sequence 1 — Fold a piece of construction paper into 8 sections (fold in half 3 times). Students create a sequence comic strip using words and pictures.

Sequence 2 — Use the included truffula treetop shapes for story sequence (you can copy as many as you need). Students write one story event on each treetop, cut them out, put them in sequence order, and glue them on a sentence strip.

Story Structure — Complete a Story Structure graphic organizer identifying the characters, setting, and plot.

Compare and Contrast — Compare and contrast two or characters using a Venn Diagram. Or compare and contrast the book and the movie.

Cause and Effect — Complete a Cause and Effect chart.

Change Over Time — Complete a Change Over Time chart for either the Lorax or the Onceler.

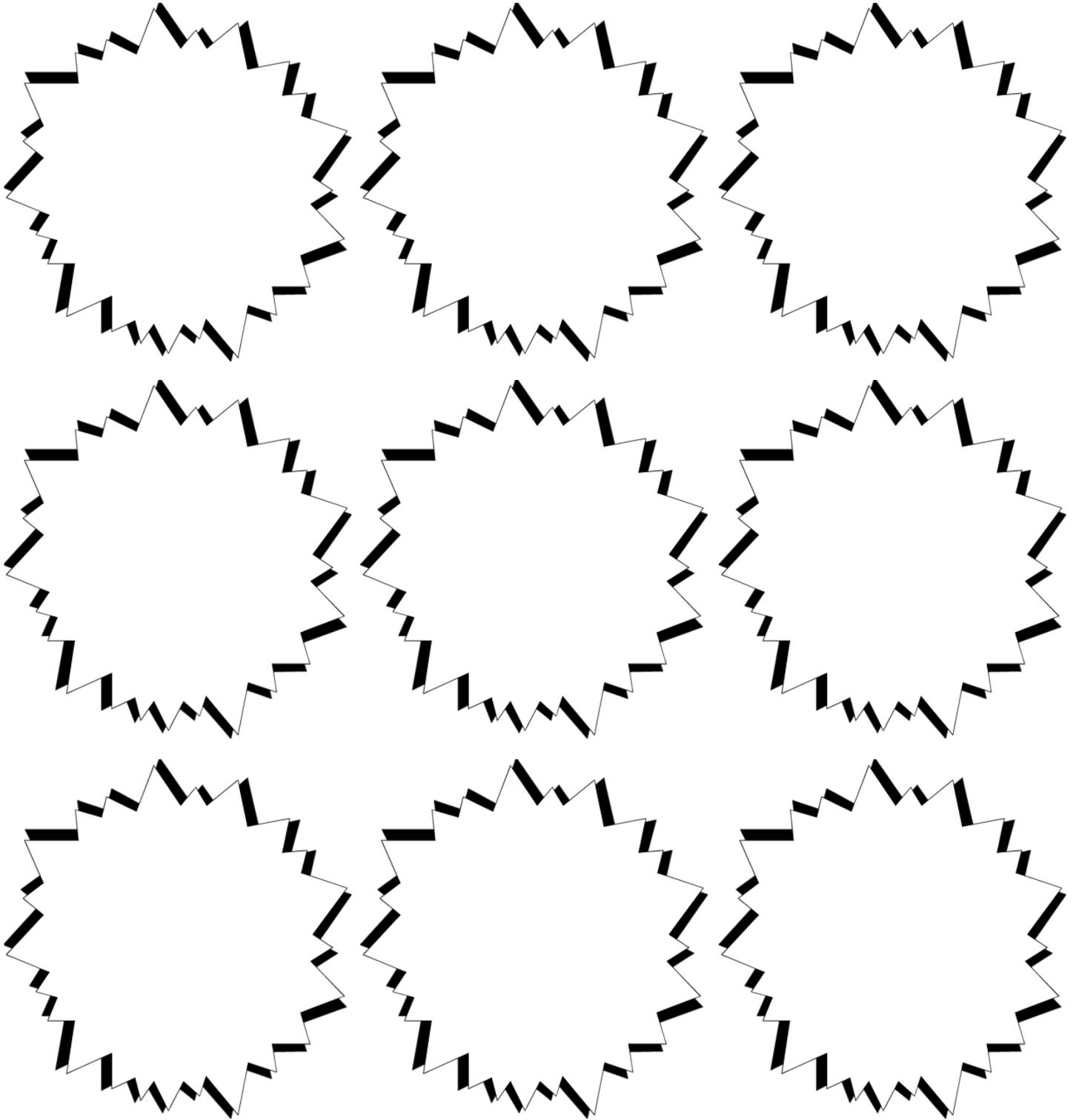
Make Connections — Complete a Connections Chart.



Name _____

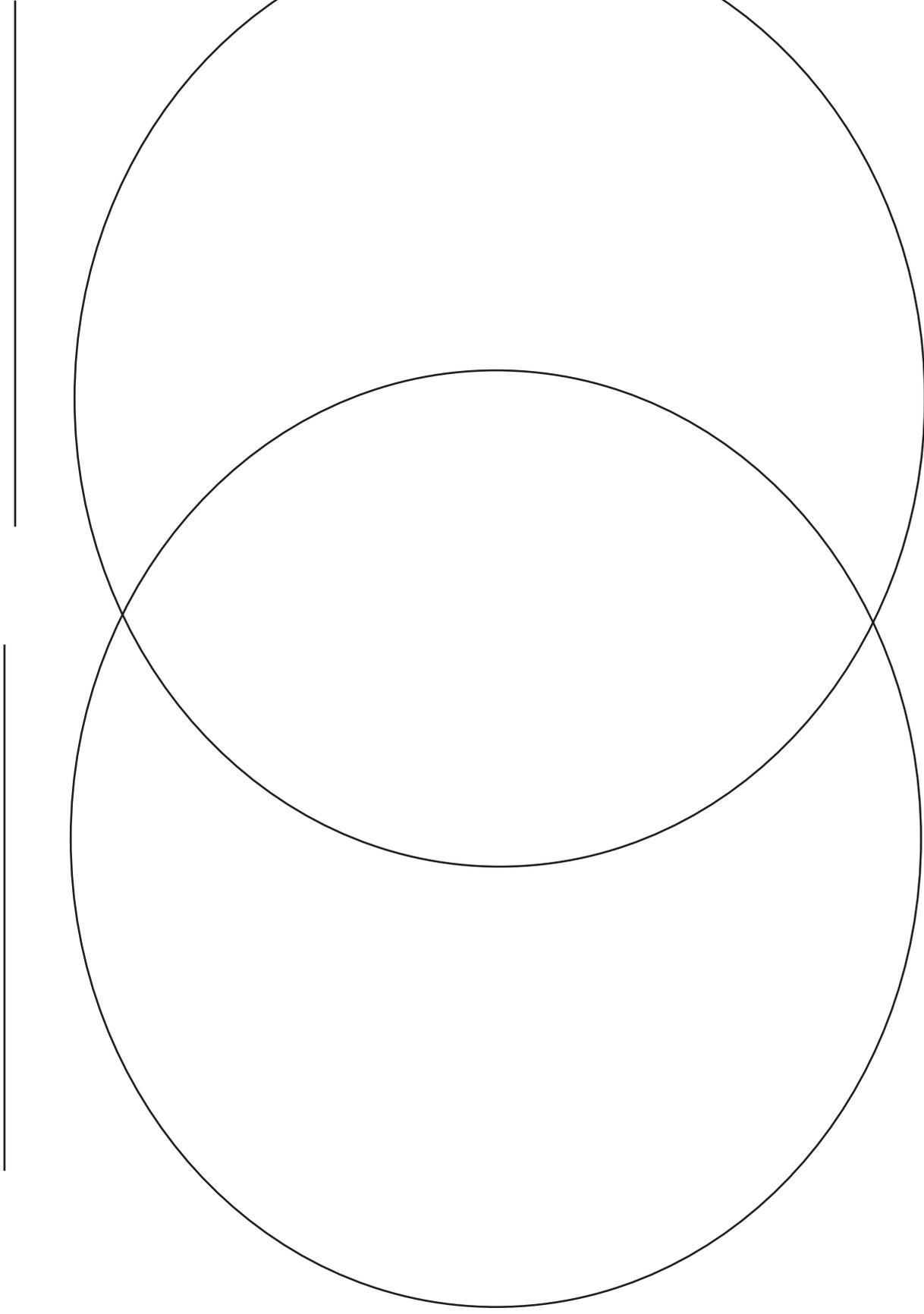
The Lorax Sequence

Write one story event on each truffula treetop. Cut out the treetops and glue them in order of sequence.



Name _____

The Lorax Compare and Contrast

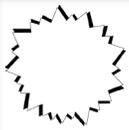


Name _____

The Lorax Story Structure



Characters



Setting

Plot

Beginning

Middle

End

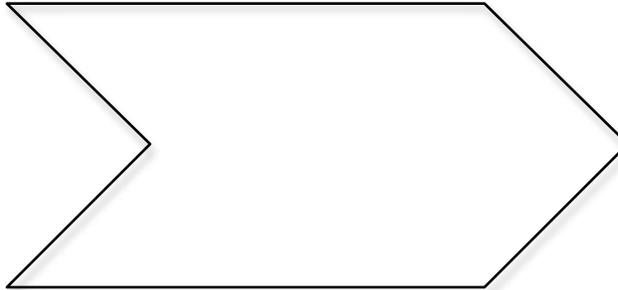
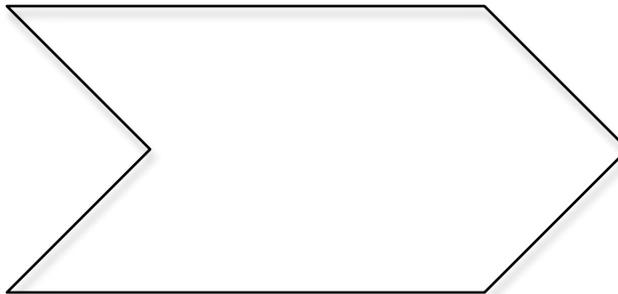
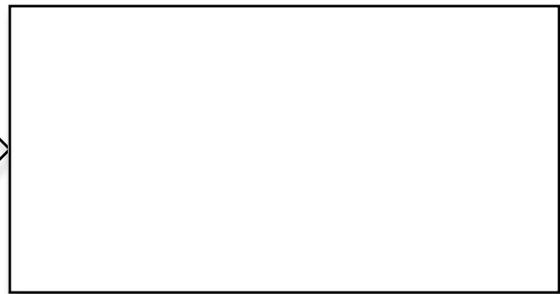
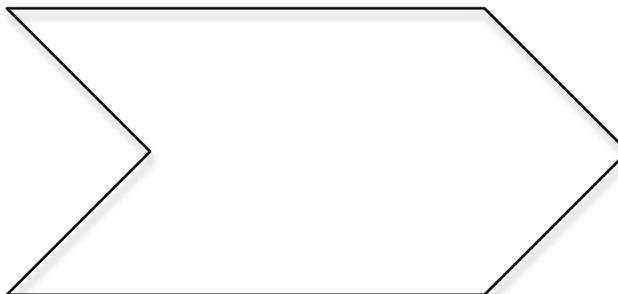
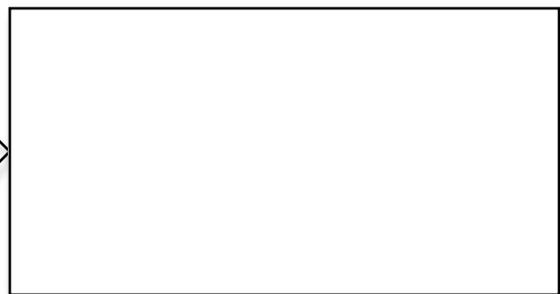
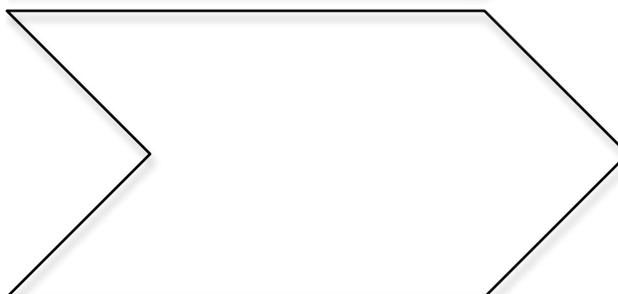


Name _____

The Lorax Cause and Effect

Cause (Why Something Happened)

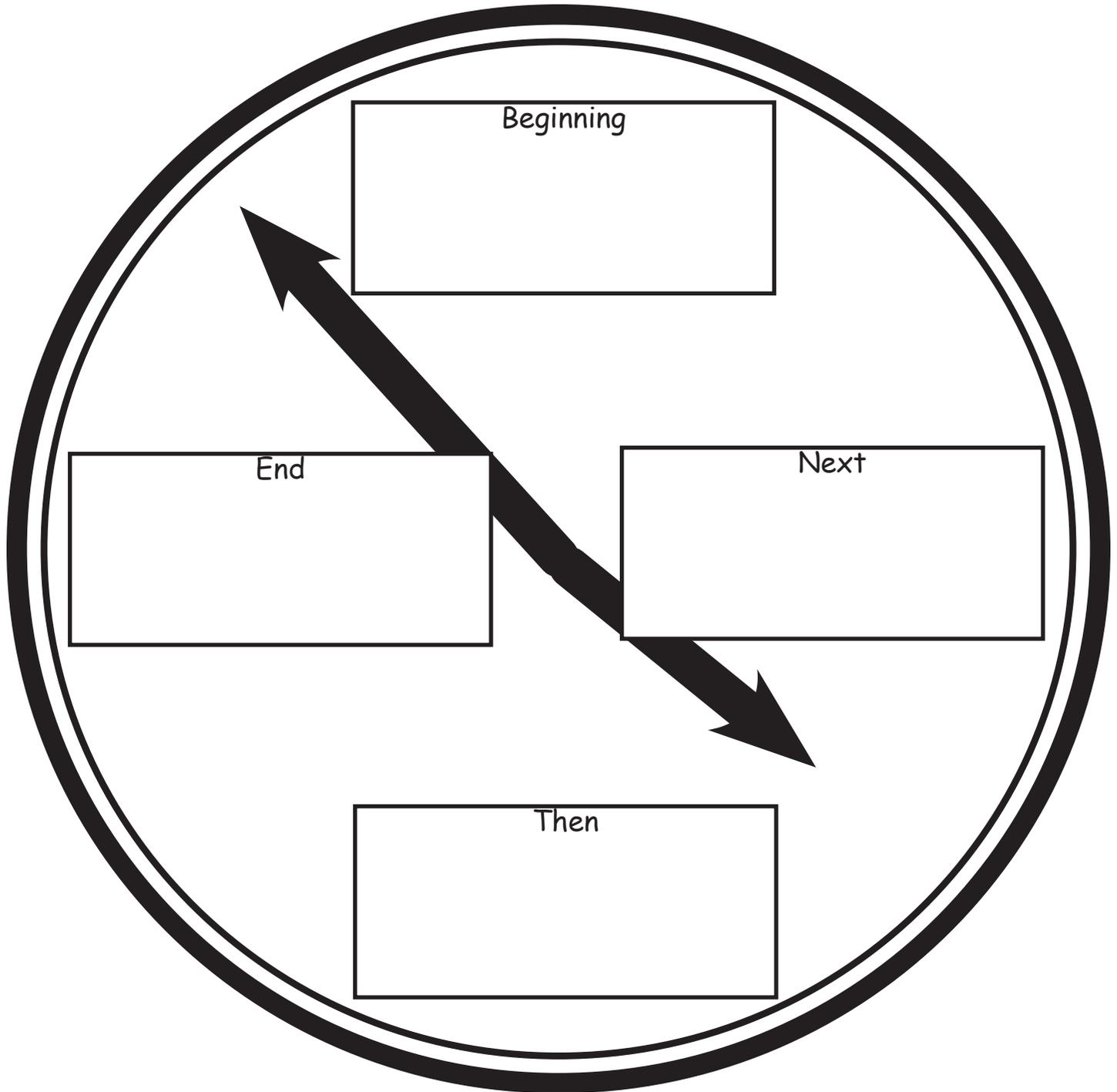
Effect (What Happened)

A large, empty arrow-shaped box pointing to the right, intended for writing a cause.A large, empty rectangular box intended for writing an effect.A large, empty arrow-shaped box pointing to the right, intended for writing a cause.A large, empty rectangular box intended for writing an effect.A large, empty arrow-shaped box pointing to the right, intended for writing a cause.A large, empty rectangular box intended for writing an effect.A large, empty arrow-shaped box pointing to the right, intended for writing a cause.A large, empty rectangular box intended for writing an effect.A large, empty arrow-shaped box pointing to the right, intended for writing a cause.A large, empty rectangular box intended for writing an effect.

Name _____

Character Change Over Time

Character: _____



Name _____

The Lorax Connections Chart

Text to Self



Text to Text



Text to World



Language Arts

Use the writing process to plan the story, write a rough draft, proof and edit, and publish with illustrations. Spend the last day with students sharing their stories.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." This is a powerful line at the end of The Lorax. Have students write a sequel to The Lorax. What will happen next? Will that bring back the truffula trees and all the animals? Will anyone or anything else live there?

Rewrite the story of The Lorax from the perspective of another character.

Write a persuasion piece trying to convince the Onceler why he should not pollute.

Make an ad for a thneed. Students write a script for a radio or TV ad. They could also do a storyboard to go along with the ad.

Expository Writing. Pollution is a very real problem today. Have students write an expository piece about pollution and possible solutions.



Social Studies

Map skills — Students create a map (including compass rose and a legend) of the land where the truffula trees grow. Locate the trees, the lake, the factory, and anything else they wish to include.

Needs vs. Wants — “You need a thneed.” Does everyone really need a thneed? What things do they really need? Do you want a thneed? Why or why not? Create a T-chart of needs and wants. Have them use a combination of words and pictures.

Pillars of Character — What pillars of character does the Lorax show? How about the Onceler? Does the Onceler learn any lessons in the story?

Ethics — Explain how both the Onceler and the Lorax could be right or wrong depending on different viewpoints and information.

Economics — Did the Onceler use good economic practices? Why or why not? What would you have done differently? What kind of business would you have started?



Science

Pollution — Discuss the types of pollution and how they affected the world around the factory.

Food chain — Discuss a food chain. Have students draw a food chain for the ecosystem in The Lorax. Why did the animals have to leave?

Ecosystem — What is an ecosystem? What is in an ecosystem? How did the ecosystem change throughout the story? Why?

Plant Life Cycle — At the end of the story, there is one truffula seed left. Where do you think truffula seeds come from? Does the tree make a fruit or maybe cones? Discuss and draw the life cycle of that seed. Include the steps of seed, seedling, tree, fruit/cone.

Habitat and adaptations — What is an adaptation? Give some examples. What adaptations do the Swomee Swans, Barbaloots, and truffula trees have to survive in this ecosystem?



Math

Arrays — Have students create arrays or number sentences using the sheet of truffula treetops.

Patterns — Have students color, cut, and create patterns using the sheet of truffla treetops.

Problem Solving — Students write their own story problem and solve, writing inside the truffula treetop. They can solve it on the back. Color and cute out the tree.

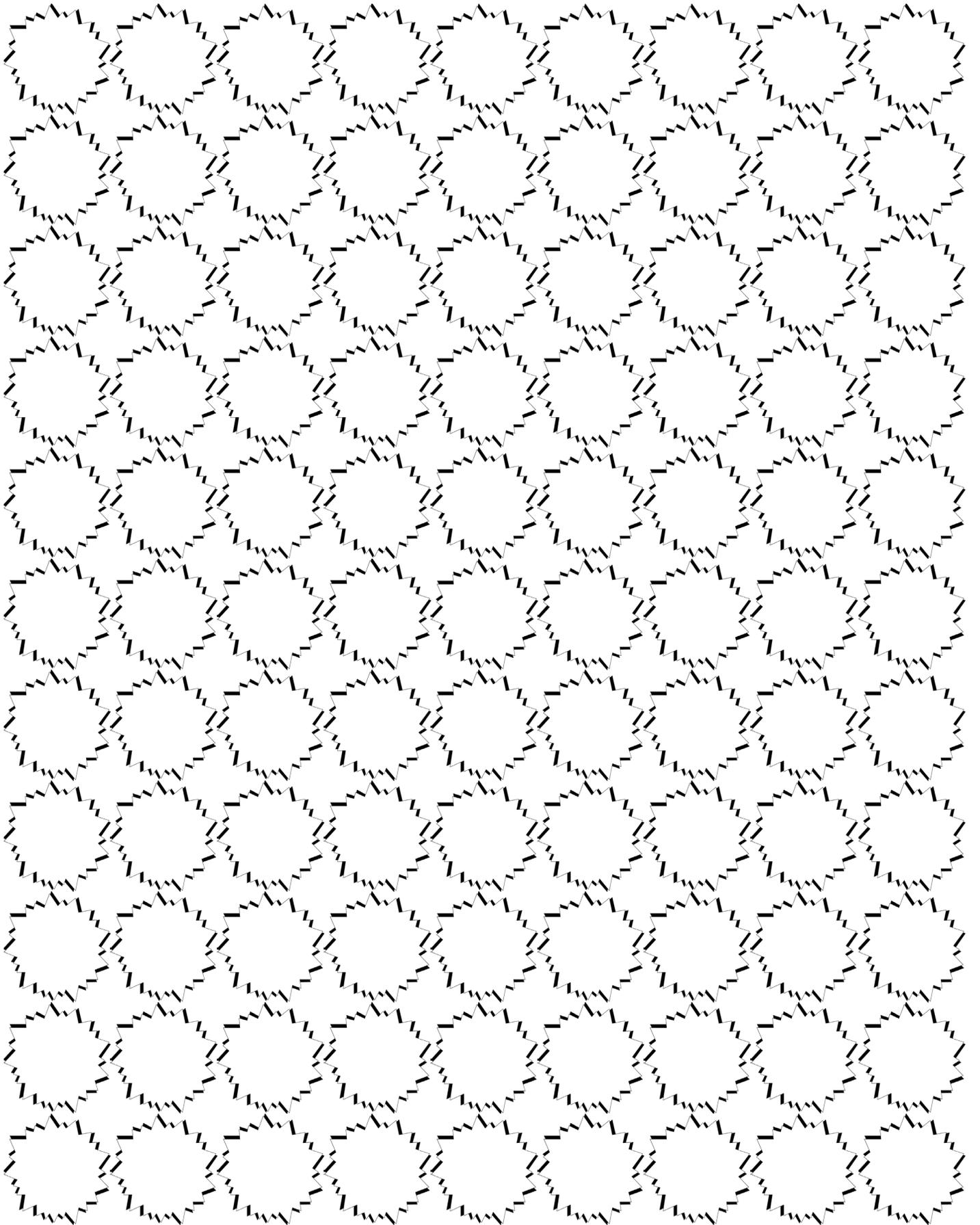
Money — Thneeds cost \$3.98. Give students money manipulatives to create \$3.98. How many different ways can they make that amount?

Decimals — Students can perform mathematical operations on \$3.98. Give them different scenarios and have them solve the problems. A couple of examples:

How much would 4 thneeds cost?

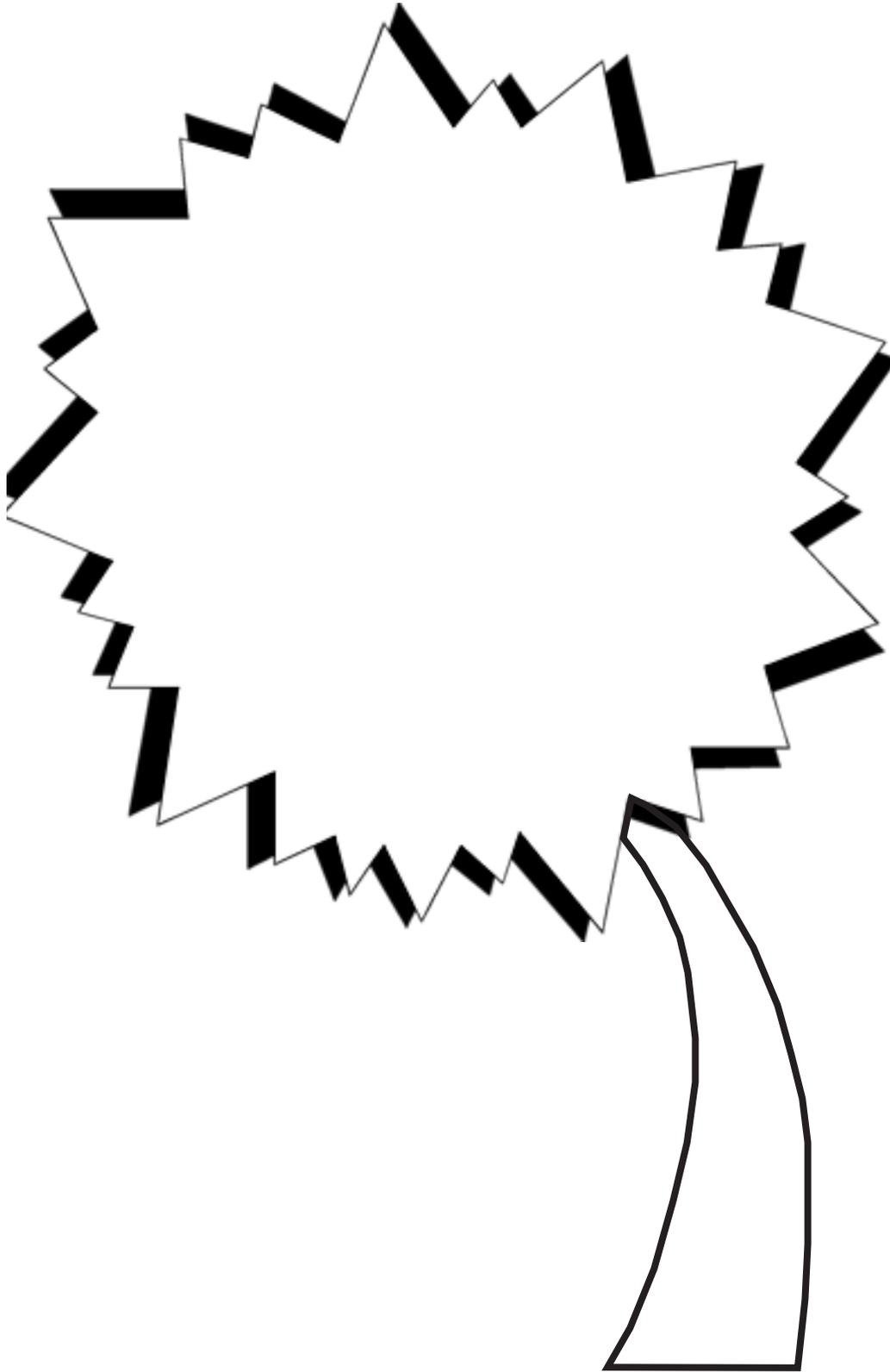
If thneeds were on sale for 50% off, how much would 4 thneeds cost?





Name _____

Write Your Own Lorax Story Problem



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in my products!
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