

Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Homework: Inferring and Reflecting After Reading

Two skills we are focusing on are inferring and reflecting after we read. Inferring requires you to think about the author's purpose (what the author means) when it isn't directly stated. It's like when people say you must "read between the lines." Reflecting requires you to identify the most important elements in a story and to make connections to what you read.

Read this passage. Then answer the questions ON THE BACK in complete sentences and PARAGRAPH form. Be specific, give details, and make sure your ideas make sense.

"King Lion and the Beetle" A Fable by Arnold Lobel

King Lion looked in the mirror. "What a beautiful and noble creature I am," he said. "I will go forth to show my devoted subjects that their leader is every inch a king!"

The King put on his robes of state, his large jeweled crown, and all of his gold and silver medals. As he walked down the roads of his kingdom, everyone who saw him bowed to the ground.

"Yes, yes," said King Lion, "I deserve this respect from my people, for truly I am every inch a king!"

There was a tiny Beetle standing near the road.

When the King saw him, he cried, "Beetle, I command you to bow low before me!"

"Your Royal Majesty," said the Beetle, "I know that I am small, but if you look at me closely, you will see that I am making a bow."

The King leaned over.

"Beetle," he said, "you are so hard to see down there. I am still not sure that you are bowing."

"Your Majesty," said the Beetle, "please look more closely. I assure you that I am indeed bowing."

The King leaned over a little farther.

Now the robes of state, the large jeweled crown, and all of the gold and silver medals had made the King Lion very top-heavy. Suddenly he lost his balance and fell on his head. With a great roar, he rolled into a ditch at the side of the road.

The frightened Beetle scurried away. From head to foot, every inch of King Lion was covered with wet mud.

TURN THIS PAGE OVER

Name: _____ Date: _____

What do you think the author is trying to tell you in this passage? Why?

What do you think is the most important thing that happened in this story? Why do you think it is most important?
