



THE WRITING ACADEMY, LLC®



Module 4

Evidence — The Second Branch of the Tree



Grade 3 • Cluster 2

Tackling TEKS 3.11B(iii) — Developing an Engaging Idea with Relevant Details



★ Meet Our Week!

Module Slide 1 • Module 4

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- Read my reason before I look for evidence.
- Find proof in the passage that matches my reason.
- Connect my proof to the prompt.
- Infer what my proof shows.

I Can...

- Tell the difference between a reason and evidence.
- Find evidence that proves a specific reason.
- Explain why my evidence matches my reason.
- Use CSI to write a response.

★ Quick Mystery — Prove It!

Day 1 • Gather

Teacher's Claim

“Somebody in here has been reading.
Do not believe me yet — make me
prove it. Point to the proof.”

Yesterday

We grew the Reason branch of our tree.

Today

We grow the **Evidence** branch — the
proof that our ideas are true.

What made the teacher's claim believable? You could point to something real!

★ Reason → Evidence → Explanation

Day 1 • Reveal

REASON

My idea.

EVIDENCE

Proof from the text.

EXPLANATION

What it shows — from
me.

C — Connect to the prompt S — Support my thesis I — Infer more ideas

★ Watch Me Use CSI!

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.) — Carmen Lomas Garza

Reason: Garza shows family traditions.

C—

Connect

The passage explains an example of this tradition.

S—

Support

It says that families make tamales together during holidays.

I—Infer

This shows that Garza's artwork celebrates family traditions.

Notice: the Infer sentence says something the passage never said in those words — that is what infer means.

★ The Strong Evidence Test

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

1

Is it in the passage?
Can I point to the
paragraph?

2

Does it prove THIS
reason, or just this
topic?

3

Did I say what it shows,
or did I stop after the
quotation?

If I cannot answer all three with yes, I need different evidence or one more sentence.

★ Evidence Grab!

Day 2 • Attempt

How to Play

1. Lay the four reason cards face up.
2. Shuffle the evidence cards face down.
3. Flip and read one evidence card aloud.
4. Count to three, then both point to the reason it proves.
5. Match? Move your Pencil Guy forward!

If You Disagree...

Each partner says: “**It proves this reason because...**” before deciding together. Round two: say the Infer sentence aloud for every match.

★ Let's Talk About It!

Day 3 • Discuss

**Compare Evidence A and Evidence D. Both are about Laura.
Why can't they trade places?**

Strong Reasoning

“One is about traveling and one is about family.” Both are true, but each proves a *different* reason.

★ True... But Is It Proof?

Day 3 • Discuss (cont.)

A student writes: “Laura was born in 1867” to prove the reason “Laura describes family experiences.” Is that good evidence? Defend your answer.

No — a birth year is not a family experience. It is true, but true is not the test. The test is whether it proves *this* reason.

≡ Write a CSI Response!

Day 3 • Use Again (Independent Practice) — Interactive Notebook

1 Sentence one **Connects** to the prompt.

2 Sentence two **Supports** with proof from the passage.

3 Sentence three **Infers** what the proof shows.

Reason: Garza shows family traditions. • Reason: Laura Ingalls Wilder shows what life was like on the frontier.

© My Evidence Branch Is Growing!

Day 4 • Award & Target

Draw Your Leaves

One leaf: Proof from the text (write the paragraph number). One more leaf: Infer (write what your proof shows).

My Target

**Next time I will... find stronger evidence. check the passage carefully.
make sure my evidence matches the reason.**

Exit Ticket

Day 5 • Explain to Others

Reason: Laura Ingalls Wilder shows that frontier families depended on one another.

1. Copy one sentence from the passage that proves this reason.
2. Write the paragraph number where you found it.
3. Write your Connect sentence.
4. Write your Infer sentence.
5. Explain why your evidence proves this reason and not a different one.

★ Evidence Finder

Small-Group Intervention • 12 min

Narrow the Search

Name the paragraph. Students reread only that paragraph and highlight the smallest phrase that proves the reason.

Say It

“My reason is...” “My evidence is...” “It proves my reason because...” “This shows that...”

If you point to a whole sentence, trim it together until only the proof is left.

② Evidence Collector Challenge

Enrichment • 15 min — Write in your notebook

Find TWO different pieces of evidence for the same reason.

Write a full CSI response for each piece.

Decide which piece proves the reason more completely — and defend your choice to a partner.

✓ My Progress Tracker

Directions

This tracker is for YOU! As you practice finding and explaining evidence, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in or check the box that matches how you feel.

Be honest with yourself — this helps you see how much you are growing!

Let's Look at an Answer!

Reason: Garza shows family traditions.

LOW

"Garza was born in 1948 in Kingsville, Texas. This is from the passage."

What's working: A real sentence, copied accurately from the passage.

What's missing: True but does not prove the reason — no Connect sentence and no Infer sentence.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Reason: Garza shows family traditions.

MEDIUM

"The passage says families make tamales together during holidays. This proves that Garza shows family traditions."

What's working: Relevant evidence that clearly proves the stated reason.

What's missing: No Infer — the second sentence repeats the reason instead of saying what the proof shows.

Our Strongest Answer!

Reason: Garza shows family traditions.

HIGH

"The passage explains an example of this tradition. It says that families make tamales together during holidays. This shows that Garza's artwork celebrates traditions families repeat year after year."

What's working: All three CSI moves are present, the evidence proves the exact reason, and the Infer sentence says something the passage never states directly. This is our Module 4 target!