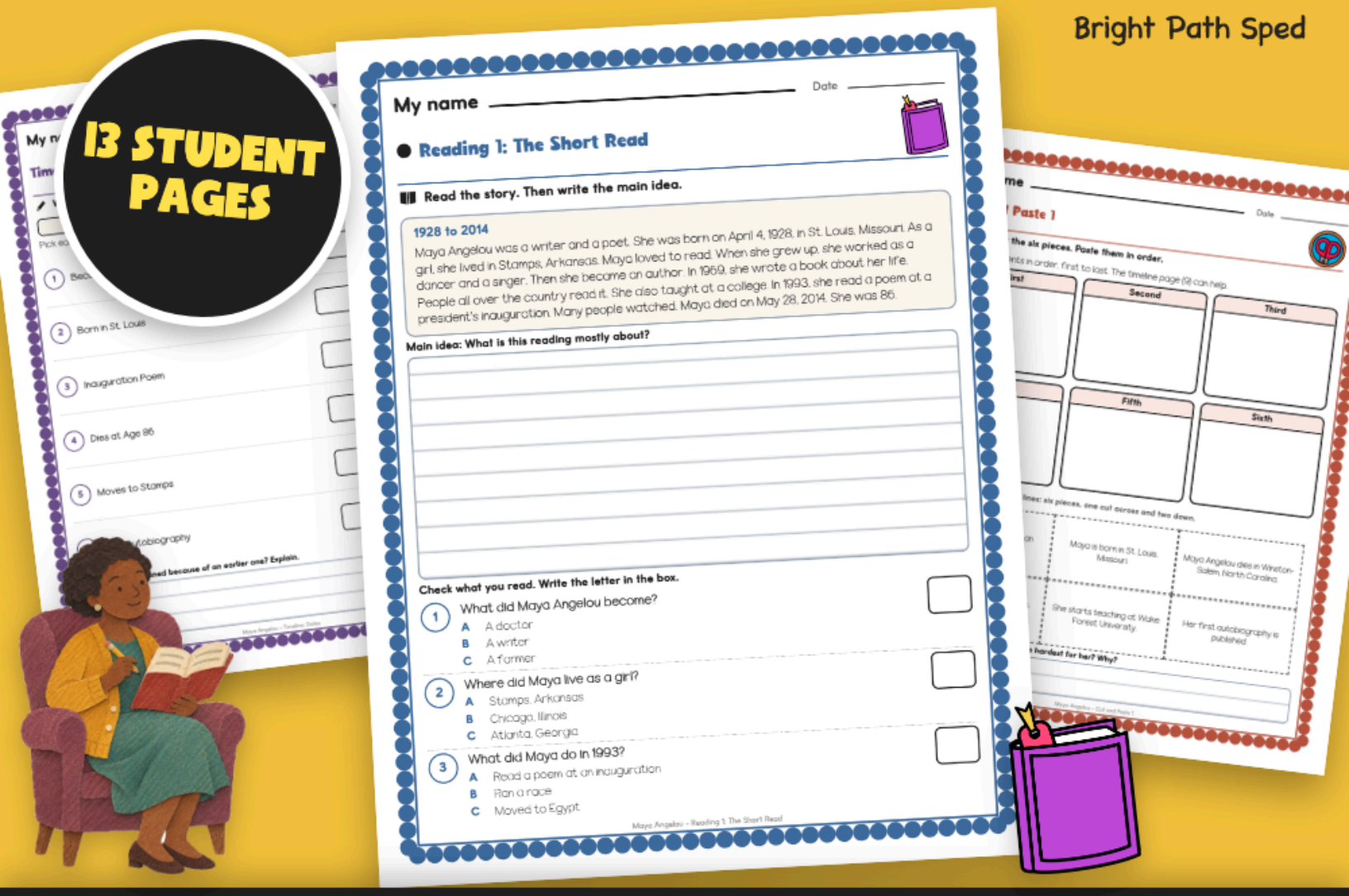
Bright Path Sped

13 STUDENT PAGES



MAYA ANGELOU POET BIOGRAPHY

Reading, timeline, writing

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One classroom license

- This file is for one classroom: one teacher, one group of students.
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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name line, every answer box, every ruled work box and every check box on the student pages are type-in fields, and so are the tracker and family page. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the ruled lines stay 0.34 inch apart. Every student page is black and white inside a colored border, so it still reads when copied in black and white.

Student work

A filled-in tracker carries a real student's name. Keep it in the data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Not affiliated

This resource is not affiliated with or endorsed by Maya Angelou, her family or estate. It is an original set of readings and activities written for this file.

Using the answer keys

The answer keys are at the back, after the student pages. Pull them out before you copy the student pages for the class, and keep them with your lesson plans.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page. Every question is read, and a fix ships as a free update.

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PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



Words to Know

Write the letter of each meaning.

1	civil rights		A	a ceremony when a new president takes office
2	autobiography		B	a person who writes books
3	honor		C	a special prize for doing something great
4	author		D	a book a person writes about their own life
5	general store		E	a shop that sells many kinds of things
6	inauguration		F	a person who writes poems
7	professor		G	the right of every person to be treated fairly
8	poet		H	a teacher at a college or university

Use two of the words in one sentence about Maya Angelou.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____ Date _____



Reading 1: The Short Read

Read the story. Then write the main idea.

1928 to 2014

Maya Angelou was a writer and a poet. She was born on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Missouri. As a girl, she lived in Stamps, Arkansas. Maya loved to read. When she grew up, she worked as a dancer and a singer. Then she became an author. In 1969, she wrote a book about her life. People all over the country read it. She also taught at a college. In 1993, she read a poem at a president's inauguration. Many people watched. Maya died on May 28, 2014. She was 86.

Main idea: What is this reading mostly about?

Check what you read. Write the letter in the box.

1. What did Maya Angelou become?
   - **A** A doctor
   - **B** A writer
   - **C** A farmer

2. Where did Maya live as a girl?
   - **A** Stamps, Arkansas
   - **B** Chicago, Illinois
   - **C** Atlanta, Georgia

3. What did Maya do in 1993?
   - **A** Read a poem at an inauguration
   - **B** Ran a race
   - **C** Moved to Egypt

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



Reading 2B: Becoming a Writer

Read the story. Then write the main idea and why it mattered.

her young adult years to 1969

As a young woman, Maya worked as a dancer and a singer. She took the name Maya Angelou when she performed. She traveled to many places and lived in Egypt and Ghana for a time. She also cared about civil rights, the fight for fair treatment of all people. She worked as a coordinator for a group led by Martin Luther King Jr. Friends who were writers urged her to write about her life. In 1969, she published I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings. It is an autobiography, a book a person writes about their own life. The book made Maya an author known across the country. It was the first of several books she wrote about her life.

Main idea: What is this reading mostly about?

Why it mattered: Why is this important to her story?

Check what you read. Write the letter in the box.

1. What two jobs did Maya have as a young woman?
   - **A** Dancer and singer
   - **B** Doctor and nurse
   - **C** Farmer and baker

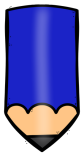
2. What did Maya's friends urge her to write about?
   - **A** Her own life
   - **B** Airplanes
   - **C** A sports team

PREVIEW

Preview - Not for Sale

My name _____ Date _____

Timeline: Dates



Write the date for each event.

1982	1928	2014	1969	1993	About 1931

Pick each date from the bank. Use the readings to help you.

1. Becomes a Professor
2. Born in St. Louis
3. Inauguration Poem
4. Dies at Age 86
5. Moves to Stamps
6. First Autobiography

Which event happened because of an earlier one? Explain.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ezee Shed

My name _____ Date _____



How Did She?

Answer each question in a full sentence.

Use facts from the readings. Start your answer with **She**.

1. How did Maya's life change when she was about three?

2. How did Maya earn money as a young woman?

3. How did Maya help the civil rights movement?

4. How did Maya share her words with the country in 1993?

5. How did Maya use her words to make a difference?

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Cut and Paste 2

Cut out the six pieces. Paste each one under the right part of her life.

Paste each piece under the part of her life it belongs to. The readings can help you.

Growing up	
Young adult years	
After her first book	

Cut on the dashed lines: six pieces, one cut across and two down.

Read a poem at a president's inauguration.	Lived with her grandmother in Stamps.	Worked as a dancer and a singer.
Became a professor at Wake Forest University.	Went to high school in San Francisco.	Lived in Egypt and Ghana for a time.

Which piece was hardest to sort? Why?

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Exit Tickets



Answer the exit tickets before you leave.

Each ticket takes about two minutes. Your teacher may collect them at the door.

1. One thing I learned about Maya Angelou today is...

2. What did Maya do in 1993? Use one fact from the readings.

3. One question I still have about Maya is...

4. My favorite page was ___ because ___.

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Sorts and Written Answers

The two cut-and-paste mats, cause and effect (page 10) and How Did She? (page 11). Written answers are samples, not the only right answers.

Cut and Paste 1 page 13

Piece (row, column)	Box
r1 c1: She reads a poem at …	Fifth
r1 c2: Maya is born in St. …	First
r1 c3: Maya Angelou dies in Winston-Salem, …	Sixth
r2 c1: She goes to live in …	Second
r2 c2: She starts teaching at Wake …	Fourth
r2 c3: Her first autobiography is published.	Third

Cut and Paste 2 page 14

Piece (row, column)	Box
r1 c1: Read a poem at a …	After her first book
r1 c2: Lived with her grandmother in …	Growing up
r1 c3: Worked as a dancer and …	Young adult years
r2 c1: Became a professor at Wake …	After her first book
r2 c2: Went to high school in …	Growing up
r2 c3: Lived in Egypt and Ghana …	Young adult years

Reading the sort keys

Read each strip left to right, top row first. On Cut and Paste 1 the boxes are first to sixth, so the box is the event's place in time. Cut and Paste 2 sorts by part of her life.

Cause and Effect page 10

#	What happened (printed)	A good answer says
1	When Maya was about three, she and Bailey went to live with their grandmother.	They grew up in Stamps, Arkansas, where their grandmother ran a general store.
2	Friends who were writers urged Maya to write about her life.	She wrote her first autobiography, and it was published in 1969.
3	Maya wrote a poem for the start of a new president's term.	She read it aloud at the 1993 inauguration while many people watched.
4	Maya spent her life writing, teaching and speaking.	President Barack Obama gave her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, an honor for people who have done great things.

How Did She?

#	Starts with	A good answer includes
1	How did Maya's life change when …	She and her brother Bailey went to live with their grandmother in Stamps, Arkansas.
2	How did Maya earn money as …	She worked as a dancer and a singer, and she had many other jobs.
3	How did Maya help the civil …	She worked as a coordinator for a civil rights group led by Martin Luther King Jr.
4	How did Maya share her words …	She read a poem she wrote at the inauguration of President Bill Clinton.
5	How did Maya use her words …	Open answer. Look for a fact from the readings, such as that she wrote about her life, taught at a university or read a poem for the country.

Write About Maya (page 12), Exit Tickets (page 16)

- **Finish the sentences:** accept any ending that is true to the readings, such as "Maya Angelou was a writer."
- **The paragraph:** look for a topic sentence, two facts from the readings and a reason. A blank is not tried yet, never wrong.
- **Exit tickets:** a fact from the readings, what Maya did in 1993, a real question and a favorite page with a reason.

PREVIEW

Riley's Tracker (Invented Student)

Riley P. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 19.

Student: Riley P. (an invented student)

Teacher: Ms. Ellis (invented)

Month: November

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
4	Words to Know	8	6	11/3	Mixed up honor and professor
5	Reading 1: The Short Read	3	3	11/4	-
6	Reading 2A: Growing Up	2	2	11/5	-
7	Reading 2B: Becoming a Writer	2	1	11/6	Missed what friends urged her to write
8	Reading 2C: Poet and Teacher	2	-	-	-
9	Timeline: Dates	6	5	11/7	Swapped two dates
13	Cut and Paste 1	6	-	-	-
14	Cut and Paste 2	6	-	-	-
15	Quiz	6	5	11/10	Missed the order question

PREVIEW

How to read it

Riley P. has done **6 of 9** scored pages and got **22 of 27** items right with no prompt. **2** pages were all right and **4** carry a note. Every number comes from the table.

What the table points to

The lowest page is Reading 2B: Becoming a Writer (1 of 2). That is where the next practice goes. The 3 pages left blank are not tried yet, never wrong.

Starters and Notes

17 starters in 6 groups. Each one is a frame with a blank: the number comes off the tracker or the page itself, never from memory.

Student sentence starters

Maya Angelou was a writer who ____.

Maya read a poem in 1993 because ____.

One word that describes Maya is ____ because ____.

One fact that proves my idea is ____.

Feedback to a student: main idea

You named what happened. Now tell me why it mattered: what changed because of it?

You gave a main idea. Which sentence in the reading shows it?

Feedback to a student: how and why

You wrote what she did. Now tell me how she did it, using a fact from the reading.

Your fact is true. Now explain why it answers the question.

Progress note starters

Wrote the main idea for ___ of ___ readings without a prompt, on ___ (date).

Put ___ of ___ events in order; used the timeline / a verbal prompt / a model.

Matched ___ of ___ words on Words to Know on ___ (date).

Family note starters

This week we read about Maya Angelou, first a short read and then the full story.

At home, ask: what did Maya do in 1993?

The home page for this week is in the folder; please send it back on ___.

Questions to ask while a student works

What happened? When did it happen?

Which sentence in the reading tells you that?

How could you check your answer another way?

PREVIEW