

Worksheet Preparation Instructions

We have redesigned the Themes First! independent work collection with two main goals in mind:

1. **Streamline the preparation process to reduce teacher workload**
We've made the independent work materials more user-friendly so educators can easily create and re-use activities, saving time and resources.
2. **Align all independent work tasks with Common Core standards and learning objectives**
We've redesigned activities both to improve the quality of the tasks and to promote generalization of academic skills.

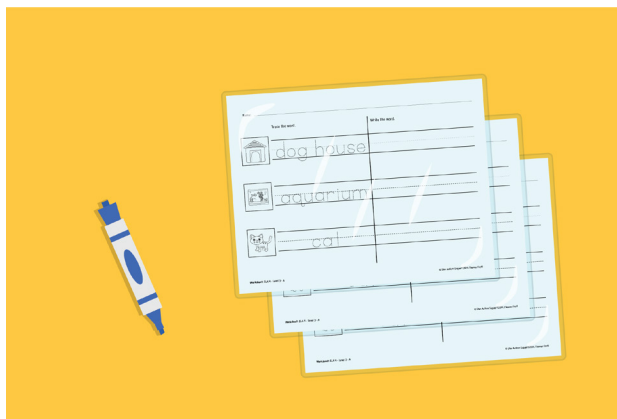
One of the outcomes of this effort was the design of grayscale worksheets that can either be printed for one-time use, or printed and laminated for reuse.

We've designed the worksheets activities in a rotation system so types of tasks vary from one theme unit to the next. This means that certain worksheets will only be used for specific months, rotating on a regular schedule so that all worksheets are used within one school year. We have developed a combination of writing, coloring, cutting, and pasting tasks for students at levels one, two, and three.

To help you prepare your classroom's independent work stations:

- Choose to print worksheets for one-time use, or print and laminate for reuse
- If students are not yet able to complete an entire worksheet, cut the page in half to reduce the workload for each task
- For multiple-page activities with tasks at different levels, choose and print sections based on students' learning levels
- If students are not yet able to use scissors independently, choose to provide adaptive scissors or prepare worksheet cut-outs in advance
- Tape worksheets to student desks to help anchor the pages as students work through tasks
- If students have fine motor limitations, provide an adaptive pencil and/or use a slant board

Example 1:



Example 2:

