Use the Clues: Understanding Inferences

Read this paragraph about Sophie and look out for inferences:

After two hours of lessons the bell rang and Sophie could finally go out and play with her friends. She packed away her calculator and pens in her pencil case, then she ran outside with all of the other excited children. Every morning Sophie and her friends would go to the school field to do handstands and cartwheels and she was always the best. Of course, they could only play on the field for the hotter months of the year because the grass was dry. The children didn’t have long to play before the bell rang again after fifteen minutes, when it was time to go back inside for an English lesson.

Things to consider:

What do you think Sophie was doing before the bell rang?

What time of day was it? What time of year was it?

Now re-write the story without inferences.

Now write an extra sentence for Sophie’s story and include an inference to show that Sophie ate a packet of crisps during her break.
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Answer Sheet

Read this paragraph about Sophie and look out for inferences:

After two hours of lessons the bell rang and Sophie could finally go out and play with her friends. She packed away her calculator and pens in her pencil case, then she ran outside with all of the other excited children. Every morning Sophie and her friends would go to the school field to do handstands and cartwheels and she was always the best. Of course, they could only play on the field for the hotter months of the year because the grass was dry. The children didn’t have long to play before the bell rang again after fifteen minutes, when it was time to go back inside for an English lesson.

Things to consider:

What do you think Sophie was doing before the bell rang?

What time of day was it? What time of year was it?

Now re-write the story without inferences.

Sophie was in a maths lesson when the bell rang for play time (morning break). It was the summer and the grass was dry so she could do handstands and cartwheels on the school field. After fifteen minutes the school bell rang and she went back inside for an English Lesson.

Now write an extra sentence for Sophie’s story and include an inference to show that Sophie ate a packet of crisps during her break.

Before Sophie went back to class, she wiped the crumbs off her face.

Sophie almost forgot to put her empty crisp packet in the bin.

Sophie was hungry so she decided to have a snack from her lunchbox. “Mmm, cheese and onion,” she said “my favourite!”

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