

TumbleTA REGIONAL STANDARDS EDITION Pizza Counting - Literal or Nonliteral?	
Massachusetts Grade 3	
TEACHES	L.3.5

CURRENT FRAMEWORK

2017 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy

STANDARD

Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings. a. Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases in context (e.g., take steps). b. Identify real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., describe people who are friendly or helpful). c. Distinguish shades of meaning among related words that describe states of mind or degrees of certainty (e.g., knew, believed, suspected, heard, wondered).

WHY THIS FROZEN LESSON EARNS TEACHES

Students distinguish literal from nonliteral use in three fixed book examples and explain each intended meaning from context.

INTEGRITY RULE

The regional standard is additive. The two lesson pages that follow are the frozen V5 lesson and have not been rewritten to obtain this standards match.

Standards-first production package | final 60-region audit | September 9, 2026

TumbleTA · Standards-First Short Lesson · Grade 3

Pizza Counting Literal or Nonliteral?

20 MINUTES

TARGET

Distinguish literal from nonliteral meanings of words and phrases in context.

STUDENT PRODUCT

Three fixed book expressions classified and explained.

LESSON SEQUENCE

1. Cat expression Reread the cat expression together with the definition supplied on that page. Students record the literal picture the words suggest and the intended meaning.
2. Whale line Move to the whale line. Students decide whether the words are literally possible in the scene, then name the clue that tells them how to read it.

3. Apple-pie line Repeat with the apple-pie line. Students must state both the literal reading and the intended meaning.
4. Compare all three Students circle which expression would be most confusing if the picture/context disappeared and explain why.

ASSESSMENT · LOOK FOR

- Classifies all three fixed expressions.
- States literal and intended meaning where appropriate.
- Uses the supplied definition, picture, or surrounding line as evidence.

Standards-first rule: freeze the lesson after QA. Add a regional code only when the complete local expectation is actually satisfied.

TumbleTA · Student Evidence · Grade 3

Pizza Counting

Literal or Nonliteral?

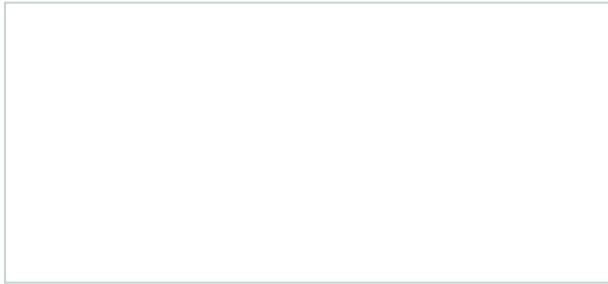
Name _____ Date _____

BOOK EXPRESSION

CAT expression + supplied definition

LITERAL / NONLITERAL

MEANING + CLUE



WHALE line



APPLE-PIE line

This student page is part of the frozen standards-first lesson. Complete the evidence shown here; do not substitute a different task to fit a standard.