Prompt Like

Teacher Prompt Pack
Grades 3–5

32 ready-to-use RTCC prompts for English language arts, math, science, social studies and every subject.

Role Task Context Constraints

From the Prompt Like series by Lowell Wolf

© 2026 Lowell Wolf. Teachers may copy and share this pack for classroom use.

How to use this pack

Every prompt in this pack follows the same four parts. Together they give the AI what a good set of directions gives a substitute: who to be, what to do, what to know and the rules.

Role
Who should the AI be?

Task
What exactly should it make or do?

Context
What does it need to know about your class?

Constraints
What are the rules: length, format, reading level, what to leave out?

1. Pick a prompt and replace everything in [brackets] with your own details.
2. Leave out student names, grades and personal information.
3. Paste it into an AI tool your school approves.
4. Check what comes back before you use it with students.

Contents

English language arts 3
Math 6
Science 9
Social studies 12
Every subject 15
Want the whole method? 19

English language arts

6 prompts for grades 3–5. Replace anything in [brackets].

Discussion questions

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade English language arts teacher.

Task
Write 8 discussion questions about [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading].

Context
I teach 4th grade English language arts, and we're working on [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Mix questions that check understanding with questions that ask what students think
- Order them from easiest to hardest
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level

The same passage at three reading levels

Role
You are a reading specialist.

Task
Rewrite the passage I paste below, from [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading], at three reading levels for my 4th grade class: below, on and above grade level.

Context
About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. [Paste the passage below this prompt.]

Constraints
- Keep the key facts and ideas the same in every version
- Label each version by level
- Add three vocabulary words with simple definitions to each version
- Don't add details that aren't in the original

A writing assignment with a rubric

Role
You are a 4th-grade writing teacher.

Task
Create a paragraph-writing assignment about [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading], plus a 4-point rubric.

Context
I teach 4th grade English language arts, and we're working on [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Write the directions in student-friendly language
- Describe what the work looks like at each level, not just a score
- Include one strong example sentence students can model

Vocabulary in context

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade teacher.

Task
Choose 8 important vocabulary words from [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading] and create a short activity that teaches them in context.

Context
I teach 4th grade English language arts, and we're working on [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level in every definition
- Give each word a student-friendly definition and an example sentence
- Include one sentence for students to complete with each word

A 3-question exit ticket

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade English language arts teacher.

Task
Create a 3-question exit ticket that checks whether students understood today's lesson on [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading].

Context
I teach 4th grade. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. Responses should be short written answers.

Constraints
- Include one recall question, one understanding question and one that asks students to apply the idea
- Add a short answer key
- Explain what each likely wrong answer would tell me

Feedback, not fixes: a comment bank

Role
You are a writing coach for teachers.

Task
Write a bank of 12 short feedback comments I can use on student writing about [book or story, e.g., the chapter book your class is reading].

Context
I teach 4th grade. I want comments that help students revise on their own.

Constraints
- Group comments by ideas, organization, evidence and conventions
- Make each comment specific and kind, and end it with a next step
- Ask questions instead of rewriting student sentences
- No student names

Math

6 prompts for grades 3–5. Replace anything in [brackets].

Practice problems at three levels

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade math teacher.

Task
Create 12 practice problems on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions] at three levels: 4 to build confidence, 4 at grade level and 4 to stretch.

Context
I teach 4th grade math, and we're working on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Include an answer key with the steps shown
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level in any word problems
- Label each level

Word problems about students' lives

Role
You are a 4th-grade math teacher who makes math feel real.

Task
Write 6 word problems on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions] set in things my students care about: [interests, e.g., sports, pets, video games].

Context
I teach 4th grade math, and we're working on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Keep every problem at the same difficulty
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level
- Include an answer key

Common mistakes and how to reteach them

Role
You are an experienced math coach.

Task
List the 5 most common mistakes 4th grade students make with [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions], and give a quick way to reteach each one.

Context
I teach 4th grade math, and we start [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions] next week. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade.

Constraints
- Show an example of each mistake
- Give one question I can ask to spot it
- Keep each reteach idea under 5 minutes

A hands-on activity

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade math teacher.

Task
Design a hands-on activity that teaches [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions] with simple classroom materials.

Context
I teach 4th grade math, and we're working on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- List the materials and setup time
- Write step-by-step student directions
- End with two questions that check understanding

A 3-question exit ticket

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade math teacher.

Task
Create a 3-question exit ticket on [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions].

Context
I teach 4th grade. Responses should be short written answers.

Constraints
- Make one question reveal the most common mistake
- Add an answer key
- Tell me what to reteach if a student misses each question

A homework-help guide for families

Role
You are a teacher known for clear notes home.

Task
Write a one-page guide for families on helping their child practice [skill, e.g., equivalent fractions] at home without doing it for them.

Context
I teach 4th grade. Many families learned math a different way than it's taught now.

Constraints
- Use plain language and no jargon
- Include 3 simple at-home activities
- Keep it to one page

Science

6 prompts for grades 3–5. Replace anything in [brackets].

A hook that sparks questions

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade science teacher.

Task
Suggest 3 surprising phenomena or demonstrations that would get students wondering about [topic, e.g., the water cycle].

Context
I teach 4th grade science, and we're working on [topic, e.g., the water cycle]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Each one should take under 10 minutes
- Use materials most classrooms have
- Include 3 questions students might ask
- Follow standard classroom safety practices

A hands-on investigation

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade science teacher.

Task
Design a simple investigation that lets students explore [topic, e.g., the water cycle].

Context
I teach 4th grade science, and we're working on [topic, e.g., the water cycle]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- List materials, steps and safety notes
- Write the student directions using clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level
- Include a data table for students to fill in
- Follow my school's lab safety procedures

A science reading at three levels

Role
You are a science reading specialist.

Task
Rewrite the passage I paste below, about [topic, e.g., the water cycle], at three reading levels for my 4th grade class.

Context
About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. [Paste the passage below this prompt.]

Constraints
- Keep the science accurate in every version
- Label each version by level
- Suggest a labeled diagram for each version

A quiz with an answer key

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade science teacher.

Task
Create a 8-question quiz on [topic, e.g., the water cycle].

Context
I teach 4th grade science, and we're working on [topic, e.g., the water cycle]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Include one question that asks students to explain their thinking
- Make the wrong answer choices reflect common misconceptions
- Include an answer key
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level

Key vocabulary and a concept map

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade science teacher.

Task
List the 8 most important terms for [topic, e.g., the water cycle] and show how they connect in a concept map I can draw on the board.

Context
I teach 4th grade science, and we're working on [topic, e.g., the water cycle]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Give each term a student-friendly definition
- Label each connection with a short phrase, like "causes" or "is made of"

Reading a graph or data table

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade science teacher.

Task
Create a small sample data set and graph about [topic, e.g., the water cycle], with questions that help students read and explain it.

Context
I teach 4th grade science, and we're working on [topic, e.g., the water cycle]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Label the data clearly as sample data
- Include 4 questions, from reading the graph to explaining a pattern
- Add an answer key

Social studies

6 prompts for grades 3–5. Replace anything in [brackets].

Analyzing a primary source

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade social studies teacher.

Task
Write questions that help students analyze the primary source I paste below, about [topic, e.g., your state's history].

Context
I teach 4th grade social studies, and we're working on [topic, e.g., your state's history]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Move from what students see, to what they think, to what they wonder
- Include one question about who made the source and why
- Don't add facts that aren't in the source

A cause-and-effect organizer

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade social studies teacher.

Task
Create a cause-and-effect organizer for [topic, e.g., your state's history] with 5 key events.

Context
I teach 4th grade social studies, and we're working on [topic, e.g., your state's history]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Check every date and fact, and flag anything you aren't sure about
- Keep each box to one short sentence
- Include a blank version for students

Multiple perspectives

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade social studies teacher.

Task
Describe [topic, e.g., your state's history] from the perspectives of 3 different people who lived through it.

Context
I teach 4th grade social studies, and we're working on [topic, e.g., your state's history]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Base each perspective on historically accurate information
- Present each perspective fairly, without taking a side
- End with 3 discussion questions
- Flag anything I should check against a reliable source

A social studies reading at three levels

Role
You are a reading specialist.

Task
Rewrite the passage I paste below, about [topic, e.g., your state's history], at three reading levels for my 4th grade class.

Context
About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. [Paste the passage below this prompt.]

Constraints
- Keep every fact accurate and the same in each version
- Label each version by level
- Add a short timeline to each version

A choice board

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade social studies teacher.

Task
Create a choice board with 6 project options for showing what students learned about [topic, e.g., your state's history].

Context
I teach 4th grade social studies, and we're working on [topic, e.g., your state's history]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Include options for writing, drawing, speaking and building
- Give each option a short rubric
- Make every option take about the same amount of time

A quick check with an answer key

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade social studies teacher.

Task
Create a 8-question quick check on [topic, e.g., your state's history].

Context
I teach 4th grade social studies, and we're working on [topic, e.g., your state's history]. About my students: reading levels range from 2nd to 6th grade. We have a 20- to 30-minute block.

Constraints
- Mix recall questions with one that asks students to explain why
- Include an answer key
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level

Every subject

8 prompts for grades 3–5. Replace anything in [brackets].

Sub plans for one day

Role
You are an experienced teacher who writes clear sub plans.

Task
Write sub plans for [subject] tomorrow, covering [what students should do].

Context
I teach 4th grade. The sub may not know the subject. We have a 20- to 30-minute block for each lesson.

Constraints
- Write a minute-by-minute schedule
- Include what to do if students finish early
- No student names or personal details

A parent email about a concern

Role
You are a teacher known for clear, friendly parent emails.

Task
Draft a short email to a family about [concern, e.g., missing assignments].

Context
I teach 4th grade. The student's strengths: [strengths]. What I'm seeing: [details, without names].

Constraints
- Under 150 words
- Warm and specific, with one clear next step
- Use [Student] where the child's name goes

A class newsletter

Role
You are a teacher who writes cheerful, clear family newsletters.

Task
Write this month's class newsletter.

Context
I teach 4th grade. This month we're learning [topics]. Upcoming dates: [dates].

Constraints
- Keep it to one page
- Use short sections with headings
- Include one way families can help at home

Supports for English learners

Role
You are an English learner specialist.

Task
Suggest supports for English learners in tomorrow's lesson on [topic].

Context
I teach 4th grade. My English learners range from [levels]. The lesson includes [activities].

Constraints
- Give supports for before, during and after the lesson
- Include sentence frames students can use
- No student names or personal details

A unit plan outline

Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade teacher and curriculum planner.

Task
Outline a [number]-week unit on [topic].

Context
I teach 4th grade. Students should be able to [goals] by the end. We have a 20- to 30-minute block each day.

Constraints
- Show each week's focus, key activities and a check for understanding
- Put it in a table
- Include one project or performance task

A reteach plan from exit-ticket results

Role
You are an instructional coach.

Task
Plan a 15-minute reteach based on these exit-ticket results.

Context
I teach 4th grade. Results (counts only, no names): [e.g., 12 got question 1 right, 7 got question 2 right].

Constraints
- Group students by what they missed
- Give one activity for each group
- Use only the counts I gave you

Classroom rules for using AI

Role
You are a teacher who teaches students to use AI responsibly.

Task
Write simple AI-use rules for my 4th grade classroom.

Context
My students are 4th grade students, so any AI use happens with a teacher or parent at the keyboard.

Constraints
- Keep it to 5 rules or fewer
- Use clear language at a 3rd- to 5th-grade reading level
- Explain why each rule matters in one sentence

A rubric for any assignment

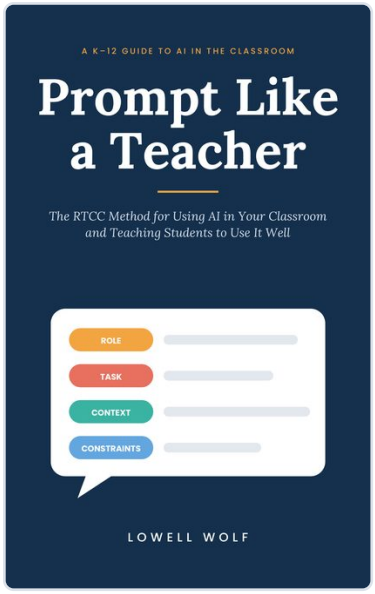
Role
You are an experienced 4th-grade teacher.

Task
Create a 4-level rubric for [assignment].

Context
I teach 4th grade. Students will [what they'll produce].

Constraints
- Describe what the work looks like at each level
- Use student-friendly language
- Keep it to one page

Want the whole method?



Prompt Like a Teacher teaches RTCC one part at a time, with before-and-after prompts, 36 ready-to-adapt prompts for planning, differentiating, assessing and communicating, and ready-to-teach lessons that help students use AI to think, not to think for them.

Find it on Amazon

For students and families: *Prompt Like a Student* and *Prompt Like a Parent* use the same four parts.