Left to burn when it's a trade off— a minimal fire now instead of major destruction in the future.

Source 1, "**Dry vegetation can quickly fuel a wildfire** that can burn out of control."

Source 1, "Small fires remove and **reduce dead grass, brush, and trees** that can fuel larger and more severe wildfires."

Source 3, "Wildfires thrive in areas full of **flammable materials** like dead plants and dry vegetation."

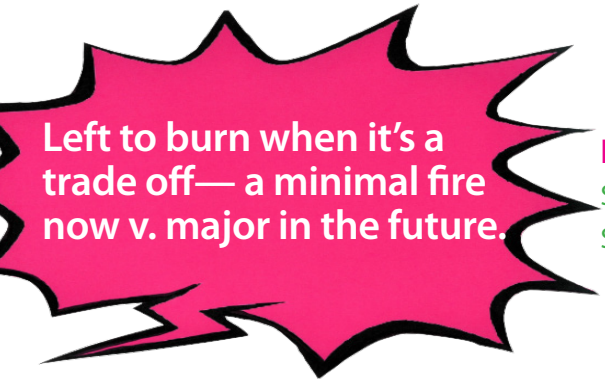
Source 3, "Smaller, cooler fires can help to **remove any potential fuel** like dry leaves."

Left to burn when it promotes new plant life in that area.

Source 1, "Fire destroys smaller or weaker vegetation and sends their **nutrients** more quickly into the ground."

Source 2, "Serotinous cones **open up in a fire** and release the seeds."

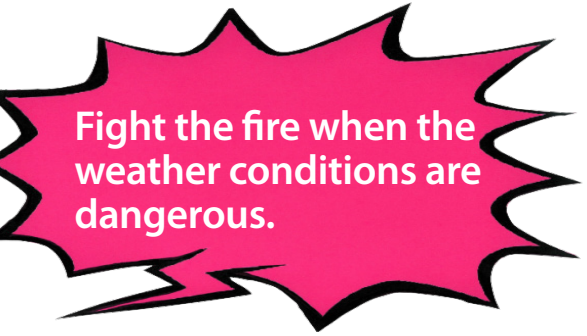
Source 2, "Seeds are carried by air and rest on **carbon rich soil** that now gets **sunlight** after the fire burned the old trees."



Left to burn when it improves the lives of animals in that area.

Source 1, "**Fewer plant roots = more water** for other vegetation and wildlife."

Source 3, "New plants (grow after fire) and **valuable food and habitats for many wildlife** species."

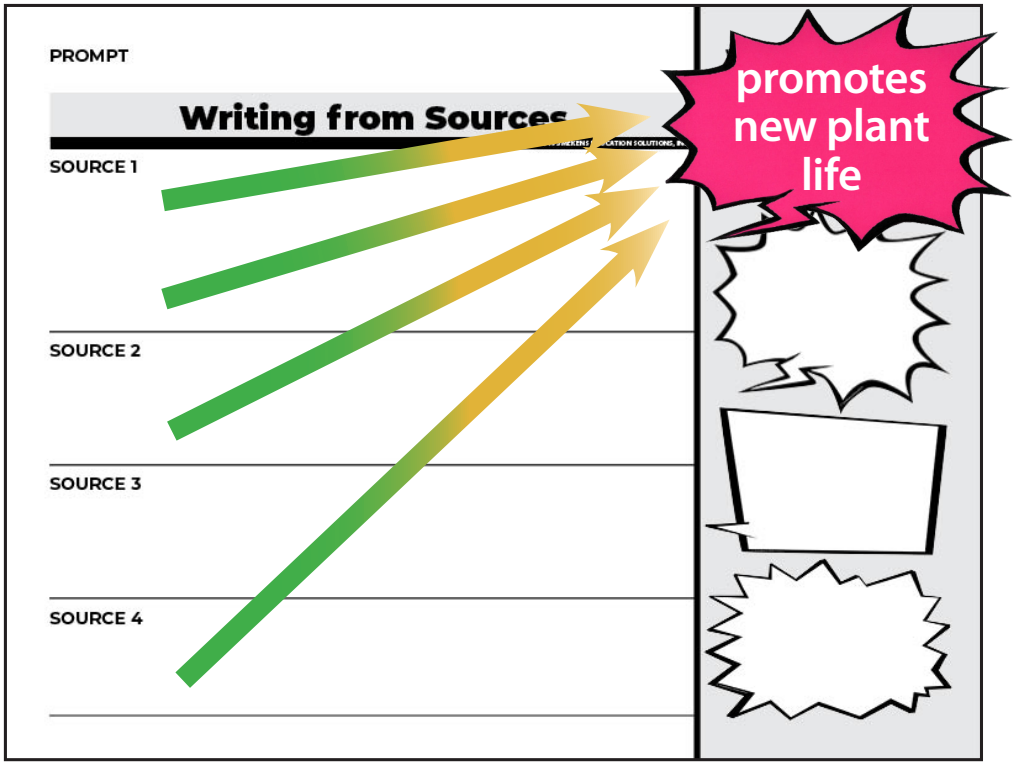


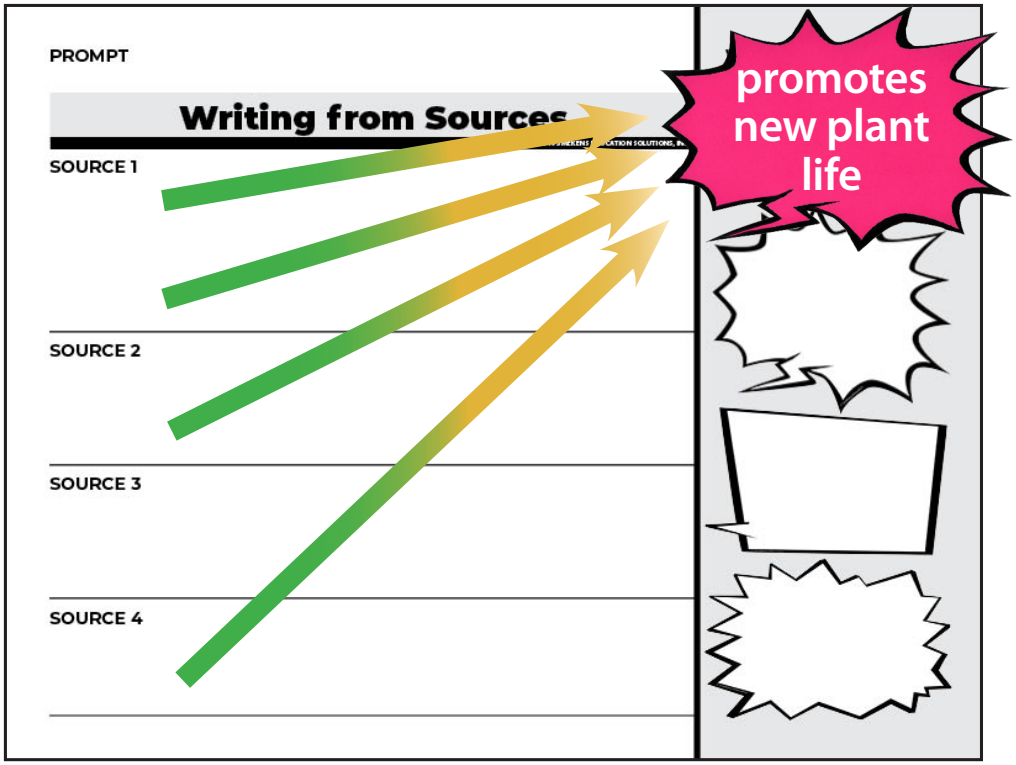
Fight the fire when the weather conditions are dangerous.

Source 1, "**Strong wind** = fire becomes widespread."

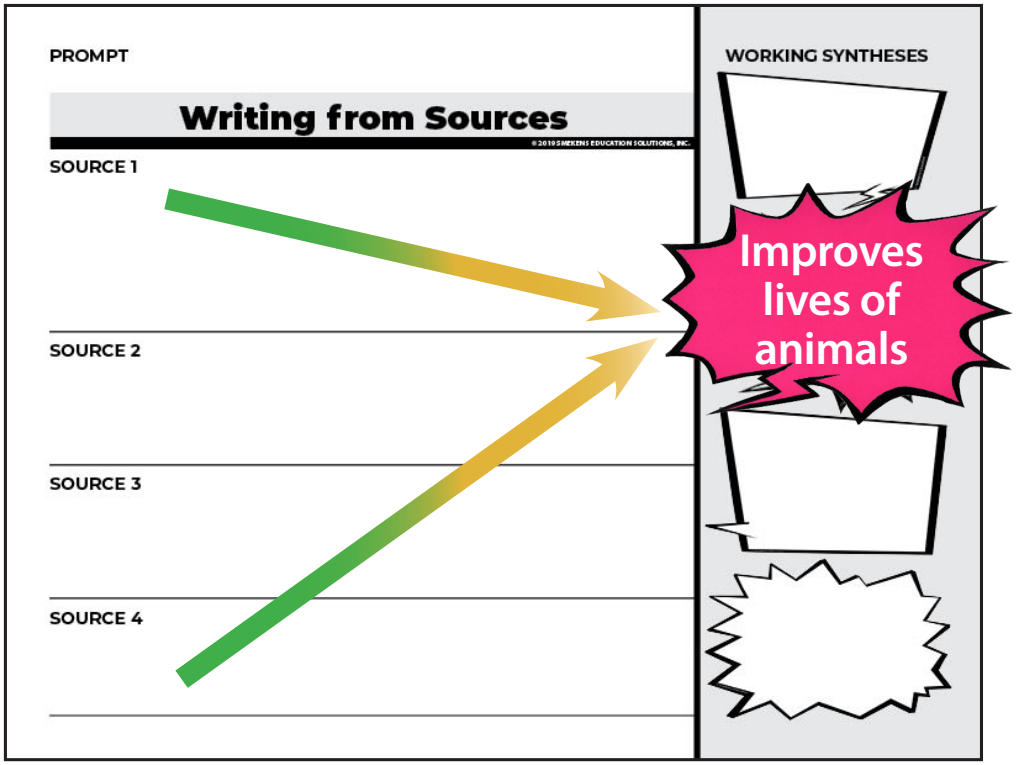
Source 3, "**Strong winds spread the flames** and cause an inferno of destruction."

Source 3, "Once the wildfire begins and **spreads, it can travel (fast)**."

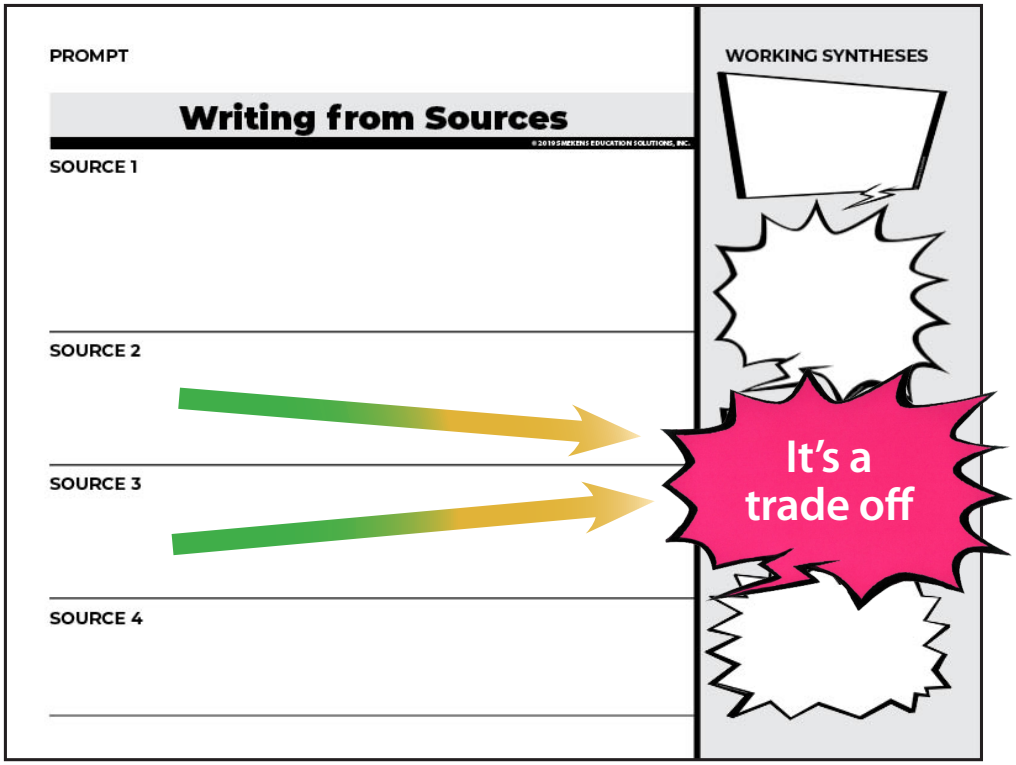




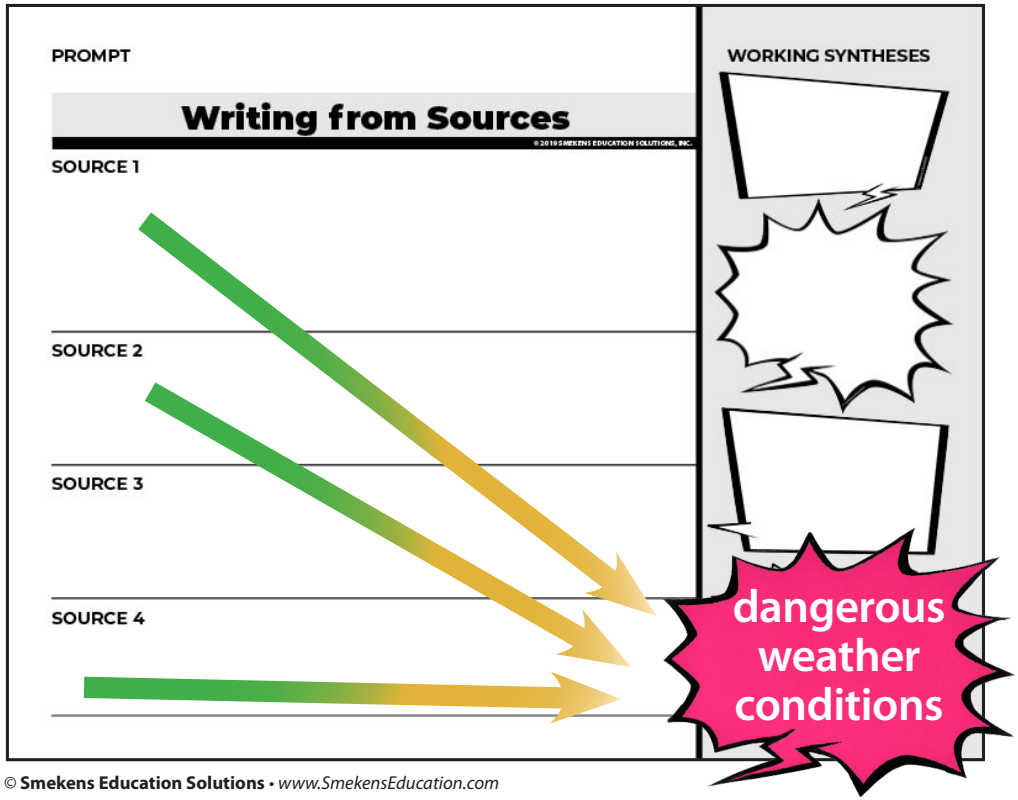
One reason to allow a forest fire to burn is when it could promote new plant life in a specific area. This is especially important for certain pine trees. According to Source 2, "serotinous cones open up in a fire and release their seeds" onto the "carbon rich soil." This causes a new plant cycle to begin. According to Source 1, fires also destroy "smaller or weaker vegetation." In other words, the plants not doing well are gobbled up by the flames. This allows their nutrients to be left behind and find their way "more quickly into the ground." With the start of new seedlings, the tree population can grow even bigger and stronger than it was before the fire.



A second reason to let a forest burn is when it could improve the lives of animals in that area. Source 1 states that when plants are destroyed by a fire this leaves "more water for other vegetation and wildlife." Needing water to survive, animals aren't competing with as many plant roots all sucking up the available water. In addition, Source 3 reveals that the new plant life started after a fire creates additional "habitats for many wildlife species." With more water and additional habitats, many animals would likely thrive after a forest fire.



A third reason firefighters would consider letting a forest burn today is because they know it may prevent even greater destruction in the future. Source 3 states that "smaller, cooler fires can help to remove any potential fuel like dry leaves." Think of it this way— if there aren't smaller fires more often, then the "dead plants and dry vegetation" build up in many layers. Source 1 predicts that these flammable materials "can quickly fuel a wildfire that can burn out of control." So even though it seems backwards, several smaller and controlled fires may keep one large and destructive fire from ever happening.



Even though there are several reasons to let a forest fire burn, there is at least one reason to fight it— when the weather conditions are dangerous. One of the most threatening situations to a forest fire is the wind. Source 1 states that when a fire "becomes widspread," the more destruction it will create. And obviously, wind will cause a fire to spread. In addition, wind can impact the speed a fire grows. Source 3 cautions that "once the wildfire begins and spreads, it can travel at a rate of up to 6.7 miles per hour in forests and up to 14.27 miles per hour in grasslands." When a fire spreads this quickly, human safety becomes of great concern. So, regardless of the size of the forest fire, when high winds are present, fire fighters should work to put it out.

PROMPT

Writing from Sources

SOURCE 1

SOURCE 2

SOURCE 3

SOURCE 4

WORKING SYNTHESES

BODY ¶1

Repeat key words from the prompt…

…and state the synthesis.

Source 1 states…

This is important

because…

Source 2 also states…

In other words…

This matters because…

These details demonstrate…

because…

BODY ¶2

Repeat key words from the prompt…

…and state the synthesis.

Source 1 states…

This is important

because…

Source 2 also states…

In other words…

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These details demonstrate…

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BODY ¶3

Repeat key words from the prompt…

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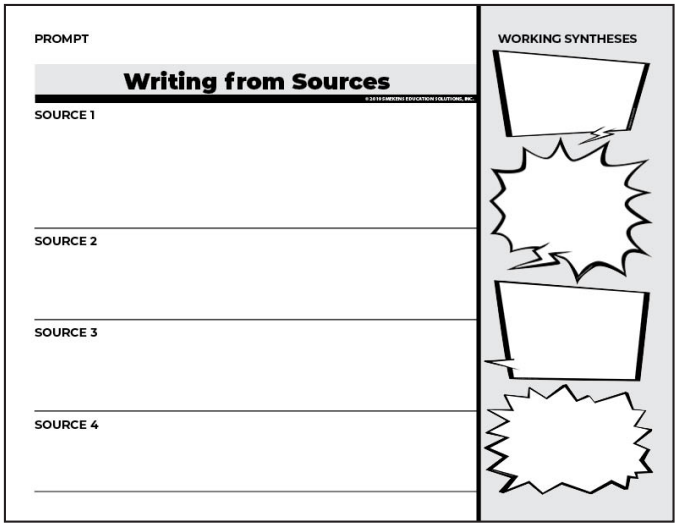

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One reason to allow a forest fire to burn is when it could promote new plant life in a specific area. This is especially important for certain pine trees. According to Source 2, "serotinous cones open up in a fire and release their seeds" onto the "carbon rich soil." This causes a new plant cycle to begin. According to Source 1, fires also destroy "smaller or weaker vegetation." In other words, the plants not doing well are gobbled up by the flames. This allows their nutrients to be left behind and find their way "more quickly into the ground." With the start of new seedlings, the tree population can grow even bigger and stronger than it was before the fire.

BODY ¶2

Repeat key words from the prompt…
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Source 1 states…
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because…
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This matters because…
These details demonstrate…
because…

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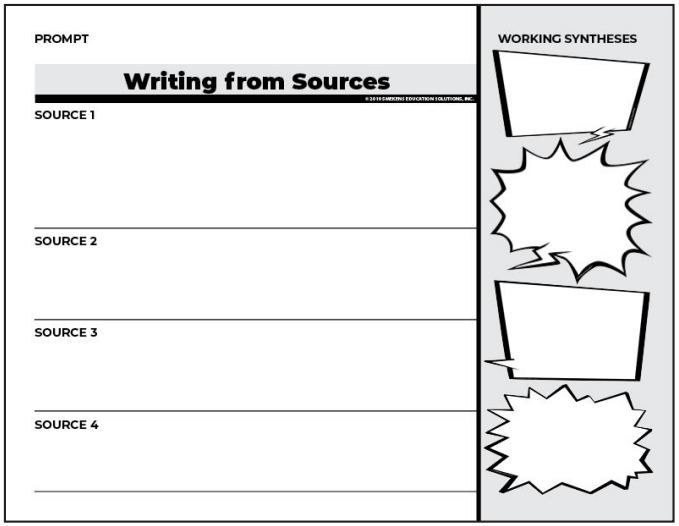

INTRODUCTION

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BODY ¶2

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BODY ¶3

CONCLUSION

After reading *All About Wildfires*, *Facts about Wildfires*, and viewing *Why Certain Naturally Occurring Wildfires are Necessary*, there are several reasons why some forest fires are fought while others are left to burn.

One reason to allow a forest fire to burn is when it could promote new plant life in a specific area. This is especially important for certain pine trees. According to Source 2, "serotinous cones open up in a fire and release their seeds" onto the "carbon rich soil." This causes a new plant cycle to begin. According to Source 1, fires also destroy "smaller or weaker vegetation." In other words, the plants not doing well are gobbled up by the flames. This allows their nutrients to be left behind and find their way "more quickly into the ground." With the start of new seedlings, the tree population can grow even bigger and stronger than it was before the fire.

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Although most people would assume a firefighter would work to extinguish any flames, there are several reasons why a smaller, controlled forest fire might be allowed to burn out on its own.

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