The topics authors choose to write about often connect with their memories of personal experiences. Some writers stick closely to those experiences, while others take the basic idea and imagine something new. Writers use their ideas and shape them into news articles, essays, poems, stories, plays, or films so that you can make your own connections.

Engaged readers **make connections** between the text and their own experiences, other texts, and the world around them. Describe the strongest connection you made with the article you read in Lesson 1. How did connecting with the text help make the story come alive for you?

Connect with the story by taking Koester's point of view. Take time to recreate the moment described in the article. What do you imagine he saw, heard, or felt? Reread the article, "Roadside Caesarean Saves a Fawn." Concentrate on which of your senses are activated.

Fill in the Sensory Chart below, as if you were there with Koester.

What could you SEE?	
What could you HEAR?	
What could you SMELL?	
What could you physically FEEL?	
What emotions could you FEEL?	

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- Discuss your chart with a partner. Use your charts to answer this question for each other: Do the details on my chart suggest that I rely more on details from the article or from my imagination?

- Connect with Koester's experience. Using your Sensory Chart, draft a poem with Koester as the speaker of the poem. Your poem can be very free, focusing more on images and feelings rather than form and structure.

- Read your poem aloud with two partners. Ask both listeners to describe what they connected with in your poem. Write brief notes about the connections that seem most important or moving to them and why.

Of the strategies you used to connect with this lesson, which were most helpful and why?

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