Turtle Text Clues

Use headings and bold print to connect text features with details.

3.LF.23.a "Explain how text features support details in the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three bold headings at the start of the paragraphs. Then circle one detail in each paragraph that its heading helps you find.

A Sea Turtle's First Days

1. **A Nest in the Sand** A mother sea turtle crawls onto a beach at night. She digs a hole with her back flippers and lays many eggs inside. Then she covers the eggs with sand and returns to the water. The sand hides the eggs from some animals and helps keep them at a steady temperature while the baby turtles grow inside.

2. **Finding the Water** After several weeks, the baby turtles break out of their shells. These newly hatched turtles are called **hatchlings**. They climb out of the nest, often after dark. The hatchlings hurry across the beach toward the bright horizon over the sea. Crabs and birds may catch them on the way. Reaching the water is their first big test.

3. **Life in the Ocean** Once in the water, the young turtles swim away from shore. They may hide among floating seaweed, where they can find tiny animals to eat. As they grow, they travel through the ocean and face dangers such as large fish. Years later, female sea turtles return to a beach to dig nests of their own.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the heading **A Nest in the Sand** help you understand the details about digging and covering eggs?

2. How does the bold word **hatchlings** help you follow what happens next in the second paragraph?

3. How does the heading **Finding the Water** fit the details about crabs and birds?

4. How does the heading **Life in the Ocean** help you find details about where young turtles hide and what they eat?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new title for the whole passage, not one of its section headings. Then write two sentences explaining how your title connects one detail from the first paragraph with one detail from the third paragraph.

ANSWER KEY

Turtle Text Clues

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.23.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the three bold headings at the start of the paragraphs. Then circle one detail in each paragraph that its heading helps you find. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the heading **A Nest in the Sand** help you understand the details about digging and covering eggs?	**The heading shows that digging the hole and covering the eggs make a nest in the sand.**
2	How does the bold word **hatchlings** help you follow what happens next in the second paragraph?	**It names the newly hatched turtles, so readers know they are the ones hurrying across the beach.**
3	How does the heading **Finding the Water** fit the details about crabs and birds?	**The heading points to the turtles' trip to the water, when crabs and birds may catch them.**
4	How does the heading **Life in the Ocean** help you find details about where young turtles hide and what they eat?	**It points to the section that says young turtles may hide among floating seaweed and eat tiny animals there.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

From Sand to Sea
The word sand points to the beach where a mother turtle covers her eggs. The word sea points to where young turtles hide among seaweed and find tiny animals to eat.

Accept headings and explanations that accurately connect a detail from the first paragraph with a detail from the third. For the marking job, any detail that fits its paragraph's heading is valid.