Desert Reading Paths

Use print and screen features to find information.

3.LF.23.c "Interpret text features used in written and digital formats."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three section headings, circle the bold science word in the text, and draw a box around the underlined words that could be a screen link. Each mark shows a different way the text guides you.

Visitors to a Cactus Flower

1 **Flowers After Dark** In the desert, a saguaro cactus opens its white flowers at night. The flowers make a sweet smell that draws hungry bats. A bat flies toward a flower and drinks its nectar. Nectar is a sugary liquid inside the flower. The bat gets a meal while the flower gets a visitor. The flowers stay open into the next day, so birds can visit them too.

2 **A Pollen Ride** As the bat reaches into the flower, yellow dust sticks to its fur. This dust is called **pollen**. When the bat visits another flower, some pollen rubs off. That helps the second flower make seeds. A seed can grow into a new cactus. The bat does not mean to carry pollen. It is just looking for more nectar.

3 **More Desert Visitors** Bats are not the only animals that visit saguaro flowers. Bees and birds may stop by after the sun comes up. They can carry pollen between flowers, too. On a screen, the underlined words Desert Bird Guide could be a link. Tapping it would open a page about birds that visit desert plants. A link offers a way to explore a related topic.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the heading Flowers After Dark help you find information in the text?

2. What does the bold word pollen help you understand about the yellow dust?

3. Which heading would help you find out what other animals visit saguaro flowers? What animals does that section name?

4. On a screen, why might you tap Desert Bird Guide instead of reading A Pollen Ride?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new heading for a section about how a cactus seed grows and an underlined link label for a screen page about planting cactus seeds. Then write two sentences explaining what each feature would help a reader find.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.LF.23.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the three section headings, circle the bold science word in the text, and draw a box around the underlined words that could be a screen link. Each mark shows a different way the text guides you. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the heading Flowers After Dark help you find information in the text?	**It points to the section about flowers opening at night and bats visiting them.**
2	What does the bold word pollen help you understand about the yellow dust?	**It names the yellow dust that sticks to a bat and rubs off on another flower.**
3	Which heading would help you find out what other animals visit saguaro flowers? What animals does that section name?	**More Desert Visitors. It names bees and birds.**
4	On a screen, why might you tap Desert Bird Guide instead of reading A Pollen Ride?	**The link would open a page about birds that visit desert plants. A Pollen Ride explains how a bat carries pollen.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

From Seed to Cactus

Plant a Cactus Seed

The heading would help readers find a section about how a seed grows. The link would open a page with planting tips.

Accept answers that explain what information each feature helps a reader locate. For Your Turn, the heading and link label should be different and should match their stated purposes.