Worm Bin Decisions

Use research facts to judge opinions

3.LF.25.b "Use information gathered from research to evaluate opinions."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each student's opinion about the worm bin, then circle a fact from the guide that helps you judge it.

What Should Go in the Worm Bin?

1. Our class wants to start a worm bin for leftover fruit scraps. A worm bin is a box where worms help turn food scraps into rich soil. Some students have strong opinions about how to run it. "Put every kind of lunch scrap in the bin," says Nico. "Keep it in the sunny window," says Mei. Before voting, the class reads a worm-care guide from a nature center.

2. The guide says worms can eat small pieces of fruit and vegetable scraps. It says not to add meat or cheese because those foods may smell and attract pests. Worms do best in a cool, shady place, not in direct sun. They need air, so a bin must have air holes. The class also reads that damp bedding, such as torn paper, helps worms stay healthy.

3. Now the class can test more opinions. "Add apple peels to the bin," says Ada. "Fill the whole bin with water so the worms stay wet," says Luis. The guide says bedding should feel like a wrung-out sponge, not drip with water. It also says to check the bin often and add dry paper if it gets too wet. Research helps the class decide which ideas will help the worms.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Does the guide support Nico's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.

2. Is Mei's opinion a good plan for the worms? Use a fact from the guide to explain.

3. Does the guide support Ada's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.

4. Should the class follow Luis's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write your own opinion about a way to care for the worm bin that the four questions do not ask about. Support your opinion with two facts from the guide.

ANSWER KEY

Worm Bin Decisions

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each student's opinion about the worm bin, then circle a fact from the guide that helps you judge it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Does the guide support Nico's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.	**No. The guide says not to add meat or cheese because they may smell and attract pests.**
2	Is Mei's opinion a good plan for the worms? Use a fact from the guide to explain.	**No. The guide says worms do best in a cool, shady place, not in direct sun.**
3	Does the guide support Ada's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.	**Yes. The guide says worms can eat small pieces of fruit scraps, such as apple peels.**
4	Should the class follow Luis's opinion? Use a fact from the guide to explain.	**No. The guide says bedding should be damp but should not drip with water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I think the class should check the worm bin often. The guide says the bedding should be damp, not dripping wet. It also says to add dry paper if the bin gets too wet.

For each question, accept a clear judgment supported by the matching guide fact. For Your Turn, accept an opinion not covered by the four questions when two relevant guide facts support it.