Trees at Work

Trace how a writer uses sources to support findings.

4.LF.33.b "Integrate and cite evidence to present research findings in written form."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one finding in each paragraph and circle the name of each source. Number two facts from different paragraphs that support the findings.

What City Trees Do

1 A tree can change how a hot sidewalk feels. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) explains that trees shade the ground and release water vapor, which helps cool nearby air. Together, these two effects can make a place with trees more comfortable on hot days. This evidence shows why trees are useful in a city, not just pretty to look at.

2 Trees can help when rain falls hard, too. The EPA reports that leaves and branches catch some rain before it reaches the ground. Tree roots also help water soak into soil. As a result, less rainwater may rush across pavement and into storm drains. These facts support the finding that city trees can help manage rainwater, especially where streets and sidewalks leave little open soil.

3 City trees can also offer living space to animals. The U.S. Forest Service says urban trees provide food and shelter for wildlife. A bird might rest in a branch, while insects may feed on leaves. These examples help explain why trees matter even on a busy street. Taken together, the evidence about heat, rain, and wildlife shows that a city tree can help its whole neighborhood.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What finding about hot days does paragraph 1 support? Give one fact from the EPA that supports it.

2. What finding does paragraph 2 make about rainwater? Give one fact from the EPA that supports it.

3. How does the writer support the finding that city trees help animals? Name the source and its evidence.

4. Use facts from two different paragraphs to support this finding: A city tree can help its whole neighborhood. Name the source of each fact.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Your school can plant one tree near the playground or near a paved pickup area. Choose a spot and write a 3- to 4-sentence note explaining your choice. Use two different facts from the passage, and name the source of each fact.

ANSWER KEY # Trees at Work

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.33.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one finding in each paragraph and circle the name of each source. Number two facts from different paragraphs that support the findings. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What finding about hot days does paragraph 1 support? Give one fact from the EPA that supports it.	**Trees can make city spaces more comfortable on hot days. The EPA explains that trees shade the ground and release water vapor that helps cool nearby air.**
2	What finding does paragraph 2 make about rainwater? Give one fact from the EPA that supports it.	**City trees can help manage rainwater. The EPA reports that leaves and branches catch some rain before it reaches the ground.**
3	How does the writer support the finding that city trees help animals? Name the source and its evidence.	**The U.S. Forest Service says urban trees provide food and shelter for wildlife.**
4	Use facts from two different paragraphs to support this finding: A city tree can help its whole neighborhood. Name the source of each fact.	**The EPA explains that trees release water vapor that helps cool nearby air. The U.S. Forest Service says urban trees provide food and shelter for wildlife.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would plant the tree near the playground. The EPA explains that trees release water vapor, which helps cool nearby air. This could help children at recess, and the U.S. Forest Service says urban trees also provide food and shelter for wildlife.

Accept accurate paraphrases that connect each fact to a finding and name the correct source. In Part 3, accept either location if the student explains the choice using two different, correctly cited facts.