Night Garden Neighbors

Read a research model, then write for a new audience.

4.LF.33 "Use research to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. a. Introduce a research topic clearly and group related ideas. b..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that introduces the topic, and circle each source name. In the margin, write a short label for the main idea of each paragraph.

Why Bats Matter Near Gardens

1 Bats can be helpful neighbors to a garden after sunset. According to the National Park Service, many bats eat insects, including moths and beetles. Some insects eat garden plants, so insect-eating bats may help limit damage. A bat does not replace careful garden work, but its nighttime hunting adds another way to keep plant-eating insects in check. These facts explain one reason bats matter.

2 Where do bats rest when they are not hunting? The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service explains that bats may roost in trees, caves, or buildings. A roost is a place where bats rest or raise young. Different kinds of bats choose different roosts. Knowing this helps gardeners understand why a quiet tree or an undisturbed shelter may be important to bats.

3 Protecting bats can begin with protecting places they use. The National Park Service reports that losing habitat and disturbing roosts can threaten bats. If a gardener finds bats resting nearby, leaving them alone protects their shelter. This choice may also help keep insect-eating bats in the area. Together, facts about food, resting places, and threats show why bats and gardens can be connected.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What topic does the first sentence introduce? What main idea does each of the first two paragraphs develop?

2. Which source supports the finding that bats may rest in trees, caves, or buildings?

3. In your own words, explain one threat to bats from the last paragraph. Name the source of that finding.

4. Why does the paragraph about protecting bats come after the paragraphs about food and resting places?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence research paragraph for families visiting a community garden. Introduce how gardeners can be good neighbors to bats, give two facts in your own words with the name of each fact's source, and end with an action gardeners can take.

ANSWER KEY

Night Garden Neighbors

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.33

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that introduces the topic, and circle each source name. In the margin, write a short label for the main idea of each paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What topic does the first sentence introduce? What main idea does each of the first two paragraphs develop?	**The topic is bats near gardens. Paragraph 1 develops how bats eat insects, and paragraph 2 develops where bats rest.**
2	Which source supports the finding that bats may rest in trees, caves, or buildings?	**The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**
3	In your own words, explain one threat to bats from the last paragraph. Name the source of that finding.	**The National Park Service reports that bats can be harmed when they lose places to live or people disturb their resting places.**
4	Why does the paragraph about protecting bats come after the paragraphs about food and resting places?	**The first two paragraphs explain what bats eat and where they rest. The last paragraph uses those ideas to explain why leaving their shelter undisturbed matters.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Gardeners can be good neighbors to bats by giving them space. The National Park Service reports that many bats feed on moths and other insects. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service explains that trees and buildings can give bats places to rest. These facts show why both food and shelter matter to bats near a garden. Gardeners can help by leaving resting bats alone.

Accept accurate paraphrases and paragraph labels that identify insect hunting, resting places, and protection. In the final paragraph, look for a clear introduction, two correctly attributed facts, and an action supported by the passage.