Seedling Rescue

Follow a problem, a choice, and a change.

5.LF.23.b "Summarize a story or drama, describing how the plot unfolds and how characters respond to challenges or change their thoughts and actions and citing textual evidence."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the sentences that show the problem, Nia's first response, and the choice that changes her plan 1, 2, and 3. Underline a detail near the end that shows how Nia's thinking has changed.

Our Seedling Rescue

1. On Friday, Nia's class set out trays of bean seedlings for the spring fair. Nia had painted the signs herself and wanted her display to look perfect. Just before visitors arrived, a gust shoved the greenhouse door open. Three trays tipped, spilling soil across the path. Nia grabbed a broom and waved away Omar's offer to help. "I can fix it," she said, though her hands shook.

2. Nia swept fast, but the wet soil stuck to the floor. A visitor was already walking toward the greenhouse. Omar pointed to the seedlings lying on their sides. "They need their roots covered first," he said. Nia looked at the clock, then set down the broom. She asked Omar to gather the plants while she filled empty cups with soil. Together they tucked each seedling into a new home.

3. When the visitor stepped inside, the path was still muddy, but the seedlings stood upright in their cups. Nia started to apologize for the mess. Then Omar explained how they had saved the plants. The visitor asked if she could help carry the cups to a sunny table. Nia smiled and handed her two. Later, Nia crossed out "My Perfect Display" on her sign and wrote "Our Seedling Rescue."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What problem starts the story, and what detail shows why Nia must act quickly?

2. How does Nia first respond to the problem? Use one detail from the passage.

3. Why does Nia change her plan, and what does she do next? Use evidence from the middle paragraph.

4. How does Nia's new sign show a change in her thinking?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence summary for a student who missed the fair. Explain how the problem unfolds, how Nia and Omar respond, and how Nia changes; include two short quotations from different paragraphs as evidence.

ANSWER KEY

Seedling Rescue

GRADE 5 · 5.LF.23.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the sentences that show the problem, Nia's first response, and the choice that changes her plan 1, 2, and 3. Underline a detail near the end that shows how Nia's thinking has changed. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem starts the story, and what detail shows why Nia must act quickly?	**A gust tips three trays of seedlings and spills soil across the path. Visitors are about to arrive.**
2	How does Nia first respond to the problem? Use one detail from the passage.	**She tries to handle it alone. She grabs a broom and waves away Omar's offer to help.**
3	Why does Nia change her plan, and what does she do next? Use evidence from the middle paragraph.	**The wet soil sticks to the floor, and Omar points out that the seedlings need their roots covered. Nia sets down the broom and asks Omar to gather the plants while she fills cups with soil.**
4	How does Nia's new sign show a change in her thinking?	**She changes "My Perfect Display" to "Our Seedling Rescue," showing that she now values their shared effort more than a perfect display of her own.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the spring fair, a gust toppled Nia's seedlings just before visitors arrived. At first, Nia refused Omar's help, saying, "I can fix it." When sweeping failed and Omar pointed out the exposed roots, Nia asked him to help replant the seedlings. Their work saved the plants, even though the path stayed muddy. By changing her sign to "Our Seedling Rescue," Nia showed that she valued working together more than a perfect display.

Accept summaries that follow the main events in order and connect Nia's changed actions to her changed thinking. The two quotations should come from different paragraphs and support the summary.