Where Rain Goes

Find the main idea and cite details that support it.

5.LF.29 "Summarize in writing a variety of texts, stating their implied and/or explicit main ideas. a. Use textual evidence to support summarization. b. Cite appropriately when summarizing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the paragraphs 1 to 3, then underline one important detail in each paragraph that you could cite in a summary.

A Garden for Rain

1 Last spring, rain raced across the paved yard at Willow School. Puddles blocked the path to the playground, and muddy water flowed toward a street drain. The fifth graders wondered where that water would go. Their teacher explained that storm drains often carry rainwater straight to nearby streams. The class began looking for a way to slow the water before it left school grounds.

2 With help from a local gardener, students made a shallow rain garden beside the path. They directed water from a roof downspout into the garden instead of onto the pavement. Native plants with deep roots went into the soil. The soil and roots let some water soak into the ground. Students also placed flat stones along the edge so feet would not crush the young plants.

3 During the next heavy rain, the class watched water collect in the garden and slowly sink into the soil. The path still had a few puddles, but it was easier to cross. Students checked the garden each week and pulled weeds so the new plants had room to grow. One student noticed a beetle on a leaf. The garden did not stop every puddle, yet it gave rainwater another place to go.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main idea of the whole passage? State it in your own words and cite one detail that supports it.

2. Summarize the problem that led to the rain garden. Use a detail from paragraph 1 and cite it.

3. Which detail from paragraph 2 best explains how the garden slows rainwater? Explain why it belongs in a summary and cite the paragraph.

4. What does paragraph 3 suggest about how well the garden worked? State an implied idea and cite a detail that supports it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three- or four-sentence note for students at another school summarizing Willow School's project, from the problem to the result. State the overall main idea in your own words, include at least two important details, and cite the paragraph number for each detail.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the paragraphs 1 to 3, then underline one important detail in each paragraph that you could cite in a summary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main idea of the whole passage? State it in your own words and cite one detail that supports it.	**The rain garden helped Willow School manage rainwater, though it did not stop every puddle. Water collected in the garden and sank into the soil (paragraph 3).**
2	Summarize the problem that led to the rain garden. Use a detail from paragraph 1 and cite it.	**Rainwater caused trouble in the yard: puddles blocked the playground path, and muddy water flowed toward a street drain (paragraph 1).**
3	Which detail from paragraph 2 best explains how the garden slows rainwater? Explain why it belongs in a summary and cite the paragraph.	**The soil and plant roots let some water soak into the ground (paragraph 2). This detail explains how the garden keeps some water from flowing across the pavement.**
4	What does paragraph 3 suggest about how well the garden worked? State an implied idea and cite a detail that supports it.	**The garden helped, but it did not solve the problem completely. The path was easier to cross, although a few puddles remained (paragraph 3).**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Willow School's rain garden gave stormwater a place to soak in, but it did not fix every puddle. Before the project, puddles blocked the playground path (paragraph 1). Students helped direct water from a roof downspout into a garden where soil and roots could take in some of it (paragraph 2). Afterward, the path was easier to cross, although a few puddles remained (paragraph 3).

Accept other accurate main ideas and important supporting details. Citations may use the paragraph number alone or the word “paragraph” with the number.