Mouse House Materials

Use test results to choose materials for a job.

2.2 "Conduct investigations to determine suitable uses of natural and manufactured materials based on their observable properties, including strength, flexibility, hardness, absorbency, and texture."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each material chosen for the mouse's home and circle the test result that shows why it was chosen.

A Home for a Toy Mouse

1. We built a tiny home for a toy mouse. We tested a dry tree leaf and a plastic sheet made in a factory. We bent both. The leaf cracked, but the plastic bent without breaking. We chose plastic for a door.
2. We pressed a pebble and a piece of soft foam with our thumbs. The pebble stayed hard. The foam felt soft and springy. We chose foam for the mouse's bed, not the hard pebble.
3. For the roof, we laid a wet cloth on a square of cardboard and a square of wood. The cardboard soaked up water and grew weak. The wood stayed strong and dry on the other side. We chose wood for the roof.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why was plastic a better choice than the dry leaf for the door?

2. Why was foam a better choice than the pebble for the bed?

3. Why was wood a better choice than cardboard for the roof?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Find two safe materials not named in the passage. Test how they bend or feel. In two sentences, tell what you found, then choose one for a job and explain why.

ANSWER KEY

Mouse House Materials

GRADE 2 · 2.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each material chosen for the mouse's home and circle the test result that shows why it was chosen. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why was plastic a better choice than the dry leaf for the door?	**The plastic bent without breaking, but the dry leaf cracked.**
2	Why was foam a better choice than the pebble for the bed?	**The foam felt soft and springy, but the pebble was hard.**
3	Why was wood a better choice than cardboard for the roof?	**The cardboard soaked up water and grew weak, but the wood stayed strong and dry on the other side.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I gently bent a rubber band and a pencil, and only the rubber band bent. I would use the rubber band for a bendy toy loop because it bends without breaking.

Accept choices supported by a clear observation from the passage. For Your Turn, look for a test of two different materials and a choice linked to what the student observed.