Garden Survival Clues

Use evidence to connect structures with what they do.

4.8 "Make a claim, using evidence, that the functions of both internal and external structures of plants and animals (including humans) support growth, survival, and behavior."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two structures inside living things and two structures on the outside. Circle the words that tell how each structure helps its owner grow, survive, or act.

Morning in the Garden

1. At the edge of a school garden, a sunflower faces a bright morning. Its broad leaves spread into the light. Leaves use light to help the plant make food for growth. Beneath the soil, roots take in water. Tiny tubes inside the stem carry that water up to the leaves. Without water, the leaves cannot keep making food well, even in bright sunlight.

2. Near the sunflower, a rabbit nibbles grass. Its long outer ears pick up a faint sound of footsteps. The rabbit turns toward the sound, then races under a bush. Strong muscles inside its back legs pull on bones to make the legs move. The ears help the rabbit notice possible danger, and the muscles help it reach cover. Both structures support its behavior when danger comes near.

3. A student watches from the path and gently lifts a fallen branch. Her fingers close around it, while muscles under her skin pull her fingers into place. She moves the branch away from the young sunflower, giving its leaves room to catch light. Later, she pours water on the soil near the roots. Her fingers and muscles help her act, and the plant's roots and stem tubes help it use the water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Make a claim about how the sunflower's leaves and stem tubes help it grow. Use a fact about each structure.

2. How do the rabbit's ears and leg muscles work together to help it survive? Use evidence from the passage.

3. Make a claim about how the student's fingers and muscles help her act. What does each structure do?

4. How do the student's actions and the sunflower's structures work together to help the plant grow? Use two facts from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one structure from the passage and imagine it stopped working for one day. In three or four sentences, make a claim about how this would change the living thing's growth, survival, or behavior, and support your claim with two different facts from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Survival Clues

GRADE 4 · 4.8

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two structures inside living things and two structures on the outside. Circle the words that tell how each structure helps its owner grow, survive, or act. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Make a claim about how the sunflower's leaves and stem tubes help it grow. Use a fact about each structure.	**The leaves help the sunflower make food using light, while tubes inside the stem carry water to the leaves. Both support its growth.**
2	How do the rabbit's ears and leg muscles work together to help it survive? Use evidence from the passage.	**The ears pick up faint footsteps, which may signal danger. Muscles inside the back legs help the rabbit run under a bush for cover.**
3	Make a claim about how the student's fingers and muscles help her act. What does each structure do?	**Her fingers close around the branch, and muscles under her skin pull her fingers into place. Together, they help her lift the branch.**
4	How do the student's actions and the sunflower's structures work together to help the plant grow? Use two facts from the passage.	**The student moves a branch so the leaves can catch light. She also waters the soil, where the roots take in water that stem tubes carry to the leaves.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

If the rabbit's ears stopped picking up sounds, it might not notice danger quickly. The passage says its ears pick up faint footsteps and help it notice possible danger. It also says the rabbit races under a bush after hearing the sound. Without that warning, the rabbit might not reach cover in time.

Accept claims that accurately connect a named structure to its function and cite passage evidence. For Your Turn, the predicted change should follow logically from the structure's function.