Tide Pool Notes

A model text for noticing capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.2 "Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each capital letter that begins a sentence or names a person, place, month, or labeled item. Circle every end mark, and box three words whose spelling you checked carefully to see how clear notes are written.

Maya's Tide Pool Journal

1. At low tide, Maya and her grandfather visit a rocky shore near their home. They carry a notebook, a small ruler, and a camera. “Look carefully,” Grandpa says, “because tide pools are tiny ocean neighborhoods.” In one pool, Maya spots a purple sea star clinging to a wet rock. She writes the date, June 14, at the top of her page. Then she measures the pool's width and draws its round shape beside it in pencil.

2. Grandpa explains that the water will return when the tide rises. Maya must leave each animal where she finds it, even if it looks unusual. A crab waves one claw from beneath a shell. A snail slides across a patch of green algae. “Why do the animals stay in such small pools?” Maya asks. Grandpa points toward the open water and answers, “The pools give them food, shelter, and a place to hide from predators.”

3. Before leaving, Maya checks her notes beside the tide pool. She labels the drawing “Pool A” and adds three observations. The sea star has five arms. The water feels cool. One tiny fish darts under a ledge. Maya rereads every sentence, checking capital letters, end marks, commas, and spelling. Her careful notes will help her compare this pool with others on her next visit. What might she discover tomorrow when the tide is low again?

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the date from the first paragraph with its correct capital letter and number.

2. Copy the question in the last paragraph exactly, including its capital letter and end mark.

3. Copy Grandpa's three-part list from the second paragraph, using commas exactly as written.

4. In the second paragraph, copy the correctly spelled word that names the green material the snail crosses.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three field-note sentences about an animal or place you know. Include a capitalized name or day, a list with commas, and one question, then check the spelling and end marks in every sentence.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADES K-12 · CCRA.L.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each capital letter that begins a sentence or names a person, place, month, or labeled item. Circle every end mark, and box three words whose spelling you checked carefully to see how clear notes are written. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the date from the first paragraph with its correct capital letter and number.	**June 14**
2	Copy the question in the last paragraph exactly, including its capital letter and end mark.	**What might she discover tomorrow when the tide is low again?**
3	Copy Grandpa's three-part list from the second paragraph, using commas exactly as written.	**food, shelter, and a place to hide from predators**
4	In the second paragraph, copy the correctly spelled word that names the green material the snail crosses.	**algae**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On Saturday, Leo and I watched birds at Pine Park. We saw a robin, a sparrow, and a blue jay. Why did the blue jay call from the oak tree?

Accept exact copies for Questions 1 through 4, including the required capitalization and punctuation. For the open task, accept any three original, complete sentences that include the requested conventions and reasonable spelling.