Dictionary Detectives

Check spellings with a beginning dictionary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2g "Consult reference materials, including beginning dictionaries, as needed to check and correct spellings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the four words that need a spelling check with a beginning dictionary. Write each correct spelling neatly above the underlined word.

Mia's Tide Pool Notes

1. At low tide, Mia visited a rocky beach with her class. In a shallow pool, she saw a purple sea star holding onto a rock. Her teacher explained that this anamal uses tiny tube feet to move and to hold food. Mia wanted her notes to be clear, so she planned to check each uncertain word in a beginning dictionary.

2. Next, Mia watched a small crab slip under a piece of seaweed. A crab has a hard shell that protects its soft body. Mia wrote that the crab moved sidways to hide from a bird. She was not sure about that spelling. She opened her dictionary, looked at the first letter, and used the guide words at the top of the pages.

3. Before leaving, Mia noticed a snail scraping algae from a stone. Sea snails use a rough, tongue-like part to eat algae. Mia spelled the word beutiful when she described the pool. In the dictionary, she found the word by checking nearby words. Her final notes also said that she would return to the beach tomorow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled word in paragraph 1 that names a living thing. Write the word correctly.

2. Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled word in paragraph 2 that tells how the crab moved. Write the word correctly.

3. Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled describing word in paragraph 3. Write the word correctly.

4. Find the last word in paragraph 3. Use a beginning dictionary to write its correct spelling.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about an outdoor place. Use a beginning dictionary to check at least one word, and put a star next to each word you checked.

ANSWER KEY

Dictionary Detectives

GRADE 3 · L.3.2g

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the four words that need a spelling check with a beginning dictionary. Write each correct spelling neatly above the underlined word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled word in paragraph 1 that names a living thing. Write the word correctly.	**animal**
2	Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled word in paragraph 2 that tells how the crab moved. Write the word correctly.	**sideways**
3	Use a beginning dictionary to check the misspelled describing word in paragraph 3. Write the word correctly.	**beautiful**
4	Find the last word in paragraph 3. Use a beginning dictionary to write its correct spelling.	**tomorrow**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the pond, I watched a heron* stand still in the water. Small fish swam near the reeds.

Accept any two original sentences about an outdoor place. Accept a starred word if it is spelled correctly and is a reasonable word to check in a beginning dictionary.