

Weather Words

Find how comparisons create meaning in a garden scene.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.5a "Interpret figurative language, including similes and metaphors, in context."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each simile and circle each metaphor in the passage. Write a small number beside each comparison, then use nearby details to figure out what it means.

Rain at the Garden

- ① On Saturday morning, Lena carried a bucket to the community garden after a night of rain. Water clung to the bean leaves like tiny glass beads. The paths were muddy, and her boots made soft sucking sounds. Near the gate, Mr. Ortiz said the garden was a sponge, holding rainwater instead of letting it race down the street.
- ② Later, dark clouds rolled over the rooftops. Thunder was a grumpy giant knocking at the sky, and the volunteers hurried to cover the seed trays. Lena's friend Maya pulled a tarp across the beds. "The wind is a wild puppy today," Maya said, as it tugged and snapped at the tarp. Everyone laughed, but they tied the corners tightly.
- ③ When the sun returned, the garden seemed to wake up. Puddles were silver mirrors between the rows, reflecting the blue sky. Mr. Ortiz checked the drain near the sidewalk, which carried extra water away. Lena understood why he had called the garden a sponge. Its soil had soaked up water, while the plants' roots held the ground in place.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What does the simile “like tiny glass beads” tell you about the water on the bean leaves?

2 Who describes the wind as “a wild puppy,” and what does that metaphor suggest about the wind?

3 What does “Thunder was a grumpy giant knocking at the sky” mean? Use a detail from the passage to support your answer.

4 What does Mr. Ortiz mean when he says the garden is “a sponge”? Which details in the last paragraph help explain the metaphor?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write exactly four sentences about a weather event in a place you know. Include one simile and one metaphor. In the fourth sentence, explain what each comparison means.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each simile and circle each metaphor in the passage. Write a small number beside each comparison, then use nearby details to figure out what it means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the simile “like tiny glass beads” tell you about the water on the bean leaves?	The water drops were small, round, and shiny.
2	Who describes the wind as “a wild puppy,” and what does that metaphor suggest about the wind?	Maya says it. The wind is active and pulls or snaps at things.
3	What does “Thunder was a grumpy giant knocking at the sky” mean? Use a detail from the passage to support your answer.	The thunder was loud and repeated like knocking. The volunteers hurried to cover the seed trays.
4	What does Mr. Ortiz mean when he says the garden is “a sponge”? Which details in the last paragraph help explain the metaphor?	The garden absorbs rainwater. The soil soaked up water, and the drain carried extra water away.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rain tapped the windows like impatient fingers. The playground was a lake after the storm. I watched raindrops ripple across the blacktop. The simile means the rain made quick tapping sounds, and the metaphor means the playground was covered with water.

Accept equivalent interpretations that connect each comparison to details in the passage. For Part 3, accept varied topics if the response has four sentences, includes a simile and a metaphor, and explains both comparisons.