Reef Connections

Trace words that connect facts in an ocean science model.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.6 "Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal contrast, addition, and other logical relationships (e.g., however, although, nevertheless, similarly..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each transition word or phrase that signals a logical relationship. Write A for addition, C for contrast, P for comparison, E for example, or R for result beside each one.

How Coral Reefs Connect

1. Coral reefs grow in warm, shallow ocean water. Tiny animals called coral polyps build hard skeletons that join together over time. In addition, algae live inside many polyps and use sunlight to make food. The algae share some food with the polyps. As a result, a reef can become a busy home for fish, crabs, and sea turtles.

2. However, reefs can be harmed when water becomes too warm for too long. Warm water may cause corals to lose their algae, a problem called bleaching. Although a bleached coral is not always dead, it has less food and may struggle to grow. Moreover, muddy water can block sunlight, making it harder for algae to produce food.

3. Scientists study reefs to learn how ocean changes affect living things. Similarly, people who care for gardens watch for changes in light, water, and temperature. Nevertheless, reef protection can help. For example, communities can reduce polluted runoff, and divers can avoid touching coral. These actions give reefs a better chance to recover from stress in the future.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which phrase in paragraph 1 signals a result? What happened as a result?

2. What relationship does “Moreover” signal in paragraph 2, and what detail does it add?

3. Which word signals a comparison in paragraph 3? What two groups are compared?

4. Based on paragraph 2, what does the domain-specific word “bleaching” mean?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences about protecting a natural place, such as a pond, park, or forest. Use at least one addition connector and one contrast connector to link your ideas.

ANSWER KEY

Reef Connections

GRADE 5 · L.5.6

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each transition word or phrase that signals a logical relationship. Write A for addition, C for contrast, P for comparison, E for example, or R for result beside each one. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which phrase in paragraph 1 signals a result? What happened as a result?	**"As a result" signals a result. The reef can become a busy home for fish, crabs, and sea turtles.**
2	What relationship does "Moreover" signal in paragraph 2, and what detail does it add?	**It signals addition. It adds that muddy water can block sunlight and make it harder for algae to produce food.**
3	Which word signals a comparison in paragraph 3? What two groups are compared?	**"Similarly" signals a comparison. Scientists who study reefs are compared with people who care for gardens.**
4	Based on paragraph 2, what does the domain-specific word "bleaching" mean?	**Bleaching is when corals lose their algae, often because water stays too warm.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A school pond can provide water for frogs and insects. In addition, plants around the pond can give small animals shelter. However, trash can pollute the water, so visitors should put waste in bins.

Expected markings are In addition, A; As a result, R; However, C; Although, C; Moreover, A; Similarly, P; Nevertheless, C; and For example, E. Accept equivalent explanations of the relationships and open responses that have exactly three sentences with accurate addition and contrast connectors.