

Monarch Journey Marks

Use punctuation and phrasing to read an informational text smoothly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4 "Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each comma in the passage. As you read aloud, pause briefly at every underlined comma and stop at each period, so you can read smoothly and understand the ideas.

The Monarchs' Long Flight

- ① Each fall, millions of monarch butterflies leave northern forests and fields. They travel south to mountain forests in central Mexico, where the air is cool and the trees offer shelter. A single butterfly may fly more than 2,000 miles. Monarchs do not make the whole trip in one day. They rest, sip flower nectar, and then continue when the weather is calm.
- ② Scientists track monarchs by placing tiny stickers on their wings. Each sticker has a code, so a person who finds the butterfly can report where it was seen. These reports show the route that monarchs use. During the journey, strong winds can push butterflies off course. Cold rain is also dangerous because wet butterflies cannot fly well.
- ③ People can help monarchs close to home. Planting native milkweed gives caterpillars the only leaves they can eat. Planting nectar flowers gives adult butterflies energy for flight. Gardeners should avoid spraying pesticides where monarchs feed. When many people make small changes, they create safer stopping places for butterflies on their long journey south each fall.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1 In the last sentence of paragraph 1, copy the three action phrases separated by commas.

- 2 In paragraph 2, copy the two-word phrase that names what can push butterflies off course.

- 3 Read the last sentence of paragraph 2. Which words would you stress to show the problem caused by cold rain?

- 4 In the last sentence of paragraph 3, what words come before the comma, and what words come after it? Explain how the pause helps you understand the sentence.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences about one way to help a local animal. Use a comma in one sentence, then add a slash where you would pause when reading that sentence aloud.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each comma in the passage. As you read aloud, pause briefly at every underlined comma and stop at each period, so you can read smoothly and understand the ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In the last sentence of paragraph 1, copy the three action phrases separated by commas.	They rest; sip flower nectar; and then continue when the weather is calm.
2	In paragraph 2, copy the two-word phrase that names what can push butterflies off course.	strong winds
3	Read the last sentence of paragraph 2. Which words would you stress to show the problem caused by cold rain?	wet butterflies cannot fly well
4	In the last sentence of paragraph 3, what words come before the comma, and what words come after it? Explain how the pause helps you understand the sentence.	Before: "When many people make small changes." After: "they create safer stopping places for butterflies on their long journey south each fall." The pause separates the condition from its result.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Put out fresh water for birds, / especially on hot days. Clean the bowl often so the water stays safe.

Accept equivalent phrase copying and reasonable choices for stressed words if they show the danger of cold rain. For Part 3, accept any two complete, relevant sentences with a comma and a slash marking a sensible pause.