

# Monarch Routes

Use a migration map and a nonfiction passage together.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7** "Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline two written details that explain where monarchs spend winter or why they travel. Circle the two final winter locations on Figure 1, then number the arrows in the order each route travels.

### A Butterfly Winter Journey

- ① Each autumn, millions of monarch butterflies leave breeding areas in Canada and the United States. They cannot survive the freezing temperatures of northern winters. One major population, east of the Rocky Mountains, travels to high-elevation oyamel fir forests in central Mexico. A western population travels mainly to coastal California. These sites offer milder winter conditions, but monarchs still need sheltered trees. In spring, the butterflies begin moving north. No single butterfly completes the entire round trip, because the migration takes several generations.
- ② Figure 1 is a simplified map of fall routes. The arrows show monarchs leaving Canada for two regions of the United States. From western United States, the route continues south to coastal California. From eastern United States, it continues southwest to central Mexico. The map does not show every stop. It helps readers compare the final winter locations and see that the two populations do not use the same route. Figure 1. Simplified Fall Migration Map CANADA ↙ ↘ WESTERN U.S. EASTERN U.S. ↓ ↗ COASTAL CALIFORNIA CENTRAL MEXICO
- ③ The map and passage also explain why routes end where they do. Both winter locations are warmer than northern breeding areas, so they help monarchs avoid freezing temperatures. The passage adds that sheltered trees matter at both sites. The western route ends in coastal California, while the eastern route ends in central Mexico. Together, the sources show that migration is not simply a long flight south. It is a movement to specific places with conditions monarchs need during winter.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** What two final winter locations shown in Figure 1 match the eastern and western populations described in paragraph 1?

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**2** Use Figure 1 and paragraph 1 to explain why traveling to the final locations helps monarchs survive winter.

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**3** Figure 1 shows one route traveling southwest from the eastern United States. Which written phrase identifies this group, and where does its route end?

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**4** Figure 1 shows the final locations but not the conditions there. What two details from paragraph 1 explain why both locations can work as winter sites?

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Create a two-route migration diagram using arrows, labels, and the places in the passage. Write two one-sentence captions, one for each final location, that state the destination and explain one winter condition that helps monarchs there.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline two written details that explain where monarchs spend winter or why they travel. Circle the two final winter locations on Figure 1, then number the arrows in the order each route travels. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                                                | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What two final winter locations shown in Figure 1 match the eastern and western populations described in paragraph 1?                                   | <b>The eastern population ends in central Mexico, and the western population ends in coastal California.</b>                                                                                                 |
| 2 | Use Figure 1 and paragraph 1 to explain why traveling to the final locations helps monarchs survive winter.                                             | <b>The map shows that monarchs travel south to central Mexico or coastal California, and paragraph 1 explains that these places have milder winter conditions than the freezing northern breeding areas.</b> |
| 3 | Figure 1 shows one route traveling southwest from the eastern United States. Which written phrase identifies this group, and where does its route end?  | <b>The phrase is “east of the Rocky Mountains,” and the route ends in central Mexico.</b>                                                                                                                    |
| 4 | Figure 1 shows the final locations but not the conditions there. What two details from paragraph 1 explain why both locations can work as winter sites? | <b>Both locations offer milder winter conditions, and monarchs need sheltered trees.</b>                                                                                                                     |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Western route: CANADA → WESTERN U.S. → COASTAL CALIFORNIA Eastern route: CANADA → EASTERN U.S. → CENTRAL MEXICO Coastal California is a final winter location with milder conditions than northern breeding areas. Central Mexico has sheltered oyamel fir forests that provide monarchs with protected winter trees.

Accept answers that accurately connect a map feature, such as a route or destination, with written information about population location or winter survival. For the open task, accept clear arrows and labels plus two captions that each combine a destination with a supported winter condition.