Rainwater Solutions

Compare two ways people manage rainwater.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.9 "Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main point of each text. Circle details both texts share, then write 1 or 2 beside a detail found only in Text 1 or only in Text 2.

Two Ways to Use Rainwater

1. Text 1, A Rain Garden at Oak School: After hard rain, water once rushed from Oak School's roof and across the playground. It made puddles and carried bits of soil toward a storm drain. The school's garden club made a rain garden near a downspout. A rain garden is a shallow planted area that catches water and gives it a place to go.

2. During storms, the garden fills with water from the downspout. The water moves slowly through the soil instead of racing over the playground. Plant roots help hold the soil in place. After the rain, much of the water sinks into the ground. Oak School's rain garden slows rainwater, so it sinks into the ground instead of being stored for later.

3. Text 2, A Rain Barrel at Home: The Lopez family put a large barrel under a roof downspout. It collects rainwater so the family can water plants on dry days. A screen over the opening keeps leaves and insects out. On dry days, the family uses the stored water to water flowers and vegetables. They keep the barrel covered and use this water only for plants, not for drinking.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the main points of Text 1 and Text 2 differ?

2. What key detail do both texts give about where the rainwater comes from?

3. What happens to the rainwater in the garden, and what happens to it in the barrel?

4. Which text would be more useful to someone who wants to water flowers when it has not rained? Explain with details from both texts.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly four sentences comparing the two systems. Tell each text's main point, describe one shared detail and one different detail, then choose the better system for a playground that gets puddles and explain why.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main point of each text. Circle details both texts share, then write 1 or 2 beside a detail found only in Text 1 or only in Text 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the main points of Text 1 and Text 2 differ?	**Text 1 explains how a rain garden slows water so it can soak into the ground. Text 2 explains how a rain barrel stores water to use on plants later.**
2	What key detail do both texts give about where the rainwater comes from?	**In both texts, rainwater comes from a roof and moves through a downspout.**
3	What happens to the rainwater in the garden, and what happens to it in the barrel?	**In the rain garden, water moves through the soil and sinks into the ground. In the barrel, water is stored for watering plants later.**
4	Which text would be more useful to someone who wants to water flowers when it has not rained? Explain with details from both texts.	**Text 2 would be more useful because the barrel stores water for dry days. Text 1 says the garden's water sinks into the ground instead of being stored.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Text 1 explains how a school rain garden slows water and helps it sink into the ground. Text 2 explains how a rain barrel saves water for plants on dry days. Both systems use water from a roof, but the garden lets it soak into soil while the barrel stores it. A playground with puddles should use a rain garden because it can take in water and help the ground dry.

Accept equivalent statements of the two main points and shared details about roof water or downspouts. For the open response, accept a supported choice of the rain garden for a puddled playground, with accurate comparison details from both texts.