

Follow the Monarchs

Use a route map and a bar graph to deepen your understanding of a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.7 "Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle two details you learn from a visual, then draw a line from each detail to a sentence in the paragraph that it helps you understand.

A Monarch Journey

- ① Each fall, millions of monarch butterflies leave southern Canada and the northern United States. They fly to mountain forests in central Mexico, where they spend winter in large groups. In spring, they begin traveling north again. No single monarch completes the whole round trip. Several generations carry the migration north as females lay eggs on milkweed plants along the way.
- ② This map traces the southbound fall trip. Arrows connect the countries in the order monarchs travel, and the dot key identifies the winter forest. The visual lets readers follow a long journey across national borders. It also places Canada above the United States and Mexico, showing their north-to-south positions. MONARCH FALL MAP Canada ↓ United States ↓ Mexico • Key: • = winter forest
- ③ Scientists measure the area covered by winter colonies, because a larger area usually means more monarchs. This bar graph gives three estimates from Mexico. Each filled block stands for about one half hectare. WINTER COLONY AREA 2019-20 |  | 2.83 hectares 2020-21 |  | 2.10 hectares 2021-22 |  | 2.84 hectares The numbers help readers compare the exact estimates from one winter season to another.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What country does the dot on the map identify as the monarchs' winter forest location?

2 How do the arrows on the map help you understand the monarchs' fall trip?

3 Which winter season had the smallest colony area on the bar graph? Give the area.

4 What change does the bar graph show from 2020-21 to 2021-22?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Draw a three-event timeline for the monarchs' year. Include fall, winter, and spring, then write one sentence explaining how your timeline helps a reader understand the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle two details you learn from a visual, then draw a line from each detail to a sentence in the paragraph that it helps you understand. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What country does the dot on the map identify as the monarchs' winter forest location?	Mexico.
2	How do the arrows on the map help you understand the monarchs' fall trip?	They show that monarchs travel south from Canada through the United States to Mexico.
3	Which winter season had the smallest colony area on the bar graph? Give the area.	2020-21, with 2.10 hectares.
4	What change does the bar graph show from 2020-21 to 2021-22?	The winter colony area increased from 2.10 hectares to 2.84 hectares.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Fall: leave Canada and the northern United States → Winter: stay in central Mexico → Spring: travel north. This timeline helps readers understand the order of the migration and when monarchs stay in Mexico.

Accept a timeline that correctly sequences the fall trip south, the winter stay in Mexico, and spring travel north. The explanation should tell how the timeline adds to understanding by showing order or timing.