Falcons Across Texts

Combine evidence from two texts about city peregrines.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.9 "Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details from Text 1 and two details from Text 2 that help you understand peregrine falcons in cities. Circle one pair of details, one from each text, that connect.

Peregrines in the City

1 Text 1: Rooftop Watch Each spring, volunteers at the River City library watch a pair of peregrine falcons nesting on a tall office building nearby. The building's ledge is like the rocky cliffs where peregrines usually nest. From the library roof, volunteers record when eggs hatch and count the young birds before they leave the nest. These notes help scientists follow the city's falcons.

2 The watchers have seen that adult peregrines often bring pigeons to the nest. Pigeons are common in the city, so the falcons can find food near their tall nesting place. When a young falcon first flies, volunteers report its colored leg band. Scientists use the band number to learn whether that bird returns to the area later.

3 Text 2: A Species Returns Peregrine falcons once became rare in the United States because a pesticide called DDT caused their eggshells to become too thin. After DDT was banned and breeding programs raised young falcons, people released many birds. Peregrines recovered, and the species was removed from the U.S. endangered species list in 1999. Today, city nesting sites can help scientists watch this recovery.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the volunteers' observations in Text 1 provide evidence that connects to the recovery described in Text 2?

2. Both texts mention cities. How is the city information used differently in each text?

3. Why can a tall office building be useful to peregrine falcons and to scientists? Use both texts.

4. What is one difference between the time focus of Text 1 and Text 2?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining how city peregrines are part of a wider recovery. Include one detail from each text, and explain how reporting a young bird's leg band could add new evidence.

ANSWER KEY

Falcons Across Texts

GRADE 4 · RI.4.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details from Text 1 and two details from Text 2 that help you understand peregrine falcons in cities. Circle one pair of details, one from each text, that connect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the volunteers' observations in Text 1 provide evidence that connects to the recovery described in Text 2?	**The observations of nesting pairs, hatching eggs, and young birds show that peregrines are living and raising young in cities, which supports the idea that the species has recovered.**
2	Both texts mention cities. How is the city information used differently in each text?	**Text 1 describes food, nests, and volunteer observations in one city. Text 2 explains that city nesting sites help scientists watch the species' larger recovery.**
3	Why can a tall office building be useful to peregrine falcons and to scientists? Use both texts.	**The building gives falcons a ledge like a rocky cliff for nesting, and a city nesting site gives scientists a place to observe the recovering birds.**
4	What is one difference between the time focus of Text 1 and Text 2?	**Text 1 focuses on current spring observations of one nesting pair. Text 2 includes the past decline caused by DDT and the species' recovery through the present.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

River City volunteers watch peregrines hatch on a building and report the leg bands of young birds. The second text explains that peregrines recovered after DDT was banned and breeding programs released birds. If a banded young falcon returns, its number could give scientists new information about the ongoing recovery.

Accept answers that accurately combine a detail from each text, rather than using details from only one text. For the open response, accept other accurate three-sentence explanations that include the required details and a logical explanation of the leg band evidence.