Falcons Above Town

Mark main ideas, supporting details, and a concise summary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.2 "Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or sentences that point to two big ideas. Then number four supporting details 1 or 2, using the same number for details that support the same idea.

City Peregrine Falcons

(1) Many peregrine falcons now nest in cities instead of on cliffs. Tall buildings offer ledges that resemble rocky cliff faces. From these high perches, the birds can watch for pigeons and other prey. Cities also have open spaces between buildings, giving falcons room to dive. A peregrine can dive faster than 200 miles per hour when hunting.

(2) Scientists study city falcons to learn where they travel and whether young birds survive. Some chicks receive a small numbered band around one leg before they leave the nest. Volunteers watch nest sites and report band numbers or sightings. This information helps scientists estimate the number of falcons and notice dangers, such as a damaged nest or an injured bird.

(3) People can help peregrine falcons share city spaces safely. Building managers may place nest boxes on quiet ledges, especially where natural ledges are scarce. During nesting season, some workers avoid loud repairs near an active nest. Wildlife groups teach residents to keep a respectful distance, so adult falcons can feed and care for their chicks. These efforts give the birds a better chance to raise young.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What are two main ideas of the passage?

2. Give two key details from paragraph 1 that support the idea that cities can work well for peregrine falcons.

3. How do the numbered bands and volunteer sightings support the main idea about studying city falcons?

4. Write a two-sentence summary of the passage. Include at least two main ideas and one supporting detail for each idea.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a two-part evidence map. Create two 6-to-9-word main-idea headings in your own words, then place two supporting-detail bullets beneath each heading. Use details from at least two different paragraphs.

ANSWER KEY

Falcons Above Town

GRADE 5 · RI.5.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words or sentences that point to two big ideas. Then number four supporting details 1 or 2, using the same number for details that support the same idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two main ideas of the passage?	**City features help peregrine falcons nest and hunt. Scientists and community members study and protect city falcons.**
2	Give two key details from paragraph 1 that support the idea that cities can work well for peregrine falcons.	**Tall building ledges resemble cliffs, and open spaces between buildings give falcons room to dive.**
3	How do the numbered bands and volunteer sightings support the main idea about studying city falcons?	**They give scientists information about where falcons travel, whether young birds survive, how many falcons live there, and possible dangers.**
4	Write a two-sentence summary of the passage. Include at least two main ideas and one supporting detail for each idea.	**City peregrine falcons use tall buildings as cliff-like nesting places and open spaces for fast dives. Scientists track the birds with numbered leg bands, and people help protect nests with nest boxes and quieter work near active nests.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

City Spaces Help Falcons Nest and Hunt • Tall building ledges resemble cliffs. • Open spaces give falcons room to dive. People Track and Protect City Falcon Families • Numbered leg bands help study young birds. • Managers may place nest boxes on quiet ledges.

Accept equivalent main ideas that combine the city habitat information with the human study and protection information. Supporting details must clearly match the stated main idea, and summaries should include central ideas rather than a list of isolated facts.