Following Summer

Annotate a nonfiction passage for key ideas and connections.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.10 "By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one sentence in each paragraph that gives an important idea. In the margin, write a 3- to 5-word note explaining what that paragraph adds to your understanding of the migration.

The Tern's Long Flight

1 Each year, an Arctic tern begins one of the longest migrations made by any animal. The bird breeds during the northern summer near Arctic coasts, then flies south as days shorten. Many terns travel to waters near Antarctica, where it is summer. A round trip can cover about 40,000 kilometers, although routes differ. Instead of crossing land in a straight line, terns often follow ocean winds and currents. Their journey gives them more daylight than almost any other creature receives.

2 Scientists have learned about these flights by attaching tiny tracking devices to some birds. The devices record locations, allowing researchers to map a tern's path after it returns. Maps show that a tern may zigzag across the Atlantic Ocean rather than fly directly south. This route can seem longer, but it may lead the bird to areas with favorable winds or plentiful food. Terns eat small fish and other sea animals, so stopping where food is available helps them replace energy used during flight.

3 Migration is risky. Storms can push a tern off course, and young birds must learn to find feeding places over a huge ocean. Climate change may also alter winds, water temperatures, and the location of fish. Even so, Arctic terns have survived by using traits suited to long travel. Their narrow wings help them glide, and their bodies are light. By moving between two polar summers, the birds can find extended periods of light for hunting and raising chicks.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main point of paragraph 1? Include one detail from the paragraph that supports your answer.

2. How do tracking devices help scientists understand Arctic tern migration?

3. Why might a tern benefit from taking a longer, zigzag route instead of flying directly south?

4. How does paragraph 3 build on the information in the first two paragraphs?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum sidebar about Arctic tern migration. Explain the trip, include one challenge, and describe one trait or behavior that helps the bird survive.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 6 · RI.6.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one sentence in each paragraph that gives an important idea. In the margin, write a 3- to 5-word note explaining what that paragraph adds to your understanding of the migration. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main point of paragraph 1? Include one detail from the paragraph that supports your answer.	**Arctic terns make an extremely long seasonal migration between polar regions. A round trip can cover about 40,000 kilometers.**
2	How do tracking devices help scientists understand Arctic tern migration?	**The devices record locations, so scientists can map a tern's path after it returns.**
3	Why might a tern benefit from taking a longer, zigzag route instead of flying directly south?	**The route may lead to favorable winds or places with plentiful food, helping the bird save or replace energy.**
4	How does paragraph 3 build on the information in the first two paragraphs?	**It adds the dangers of migration and explains the traits that help terns complete their long journeys.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Arctic terns travel between Arctic breeding coasts and Antarctic waters, a trip that can stretch about 40,000 kilometers. Tracking maps reveal that they may take indirect routes to reach winds and feeding areas. Although storms and changing fish locations create problems, light bodies and narrow wings help the birds travel efficiently.

Accept equivalent paraphrases supported by accurate details from the passage. For the sidebar, accept three sentences that explain the journey, name a passage-based challenge, and describe a survival trait or behavior.