

Reefs Rebuilt

Trace two central ideas as an informational text develops them.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.2 "Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show an important idea, then write a small 1 or 2 beside details that belong to the same idea across the passage.

Bringing Back Oyster Reefs

- ① Along shallow coastlines, oyster reefs form hard, uneven clusters that rise from the seafloor. The reefs give young fish, crabs, and shrimp places to hide from predators and find food. Because many organisms gather there, a reef can support a busy food web. Reefs also soften some wave energy before it reaches shore. Yet disease, pollution, overharvesting, and construction have damaged many reefs. In some bays, the loss of reefs has reduced both habitat and natural shoreline protection.
- ② Restoring a reef is not as simple as dropping oysters into the water. Scientists first study salinity, water depth, currents, and pollution to choose sites where oysters can survive. Then local agencies, fishers, students, and conservation groups may place recycled shells or other firm material on the bottom. Oyster larvae can attach to these surfaces and begin building a reef. Teams return to measure oyster growth and to check whether fish and crabs are using the new habitat. Their findings guide later projects.
- ③ Successful restoration can benefit communities, but results take time. As a reef grows, its oysters filter particles from the water while its structure creates shelter for marine life. A stronger reef may also reduce erosion during ordinary waves, although it cannot stop every storm. Researchers compare restored sites with unrestored areas over several years. If oysters fail to survive or few animals return, teams adjust the location or materials. By sharing results, communities can improve future reefs and protect the habitat that supports local waters.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What central idea about the habitat value of oyster reefs does paragraph 1 develop? Use two details from the paragraph.

2 How does paragraph 1 introduce a problem that paragraph 2 begins to address? State the problem and the response.

3 What central idea about restoration develops from paragraph 2 to paragraph 3? Explain how the idea changes or grows.

4 Paragraph 3 says that restoration can benefit communities, but results take time. Give two details that support this claim.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write an objective summary of 75 to 100 words. State the text's two central ideas and show how the passage develops them from damaged reefs to restoration and long-term study.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show an important idea, then write a small 1 or 2 beside details that belong to the same idea across the passage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea about the habitat value of oyster reefs does paragraph 1 develop? Use two details from the paragraph.	Oyster reefs are valuable habitat because they give young fish, crabs, and shrimp places to hide and find food, and they support a busy food web.
2	How does paragraph 1 introduce a problem that paragraph 2 begins to address? State the problem and the response.	Paragraph 1 explains that many reefs have been damaged, reducing habitat and shoreline protection. Paragraph 2 begins to address this loss by describing how scientists and community groups restore reefs.
3	What central idea about restoration develops from paragraph 2 to paragraph 3? Explain how the idea changes or grows.	Restoration requires research and organized work. Paragraph 2 explains how teams study sites, build reefs, and monitor them, while paragraph 3 shows that teams use results over time to adjust later work.
4	Paragraph 3 says that restoration can benefit communities, but results take time. Give two details that support this claim.	Reefs can filter particles, shelter marine life, and reduce some erosion. Researchers must compare sites over several years and adjust projects if oysters or other animals do not return.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Oyster reefs support coastal ecosystems by giving fish, crabs, shrimp, and other organisms food and shelter, while also reducing some wave energy. Many reefs have been damaged by disease, pollution, harvesting, and construction. Restoration teams study conditions such as currents and pollution, build suitable surfaces for larvae, and monitor oyster growth and animal use. Research helps teams adjust unsuccessful projects. Over time, restored reefs can strengthen habitat, improve water conditions, and help reduce erosion near shore.

Accept equivalent central ideas about oyster reefs as valuable habitat and restoration as research-based, long-term work. Objective summaries should include the major ideas and development without opinions or minor details.