Falcons Above Town

Use text details to state facts and make inferences.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1 "Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that tell facts stated directly in the passage. Circle two clues that help you make an inference, then use your marks to support your answers.

The Library Falcons

1 Each spring, a pair of peregrine falcons returns to a nest box high on the Riverton Library. The box sits near the roof, where the birds can watch the streets below. Peregrines do not build twig nests. Instead, the adults scrape a shallow dip in the gravel and lay their eggs there. Library workers set up a camera so visitors can watch without climbing to the roof.

2 One afternoon, dark clouds rolled over the city. The adult falcons stood close over their three chicks, spreading their wings like umbrellas. Rain tapped the camera cover, and the streets below looked shiny. Even after the rain stopped, one adult remained at the nest while the other flew away. Soon, that bird returned carrying a small pigeon for the chicks.

3 At noon, Maya, a library volunteer, checked the camera screen in the lobby. She wrote that the chicks had grown new gray feathers and were stretching their wings. She also saw an adult tear pieces from food and offer them to the chicks. Maya planned to post her notes beside the screen, because several children had been asking how the young falcons were changing.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What do peregrine adults make instead of a twig nest? Use a detail from the passage.

2. How many chicks are in the nest? Include the words from the passage that tell you.

3. What can you infer the adult falcons were doing when they spread their wings over the chicks? Give two clues that support your inference.

4. Why might Maya post her notes beside the camera screen? Use a detail from the passage to support your inference.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about what the chicks' actions suggest about their growth. In the first sentence, state an inference. In the second sentence, give two details from the passage that support it.

ANSWER KEY

Falcons Above Town

GRADE 4 · RL.4.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that tell facts stated directly in the passage. Circle two clues that help you make an inference, then use your marks to support your answers. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What do peregrine adults make instead of a twig nest? Use a detail from the passage.	**They scrape a shallow dip in the gravel.**
2	How many chicks are in the nest? Include the words from the passage that tell you.	**There are three chicks. The passage says, "their three chicks."**
3	What can you infer the adult falcons were doing when they spread their wings over the chicks? Give two clues that support your inference.	**They were protecting the chicks from rain. Clues include the dark clouds and rain, plus the adults standing close over the chicks with wings spread.**
4	Why might Maya post her notes beside the camera screen? Use a detail from the passage to support your inference.	**She wants to help children learn about the chicks because several children had been asking how the young falcons were changing.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The chicks may be getting ready to fly. They have grown new gray feathers and are stretching their wings.

Accept direct answers that include accurate details from the passage. For inferences, accept reasonable ideas only when the student gives details that support the idea.