Reasons That Grow

Trace how details build a clear opinion.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.1b "Provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the writer's opinion, number the three reasons in order, and circle the facts or details that support each reason.

A Garden for Our School

(1) Our school should plant a small native garden beside the playground. Native plants are species that grow naturally in our region. This garden would give local insects a better place to find food. Many bees and butterflies use nectar from flowers, and caterpillars eat leaves from certain plants. A garden with several native species could support these animals during the school day.

(2) Second, native plants can be a practical choice for the garden. After native plants have established roots, many need less extra water than plants from wetter places. Their roots are adapted to local soil and weather. Using less water can lower the amount of watering the garden needs. Students could help mulch the beds, which helps soil hold moisture and reduces weeds.

(3) Finally, the garden would make science lessons more direct. Instead of only reading about plant life cycles, students could observe buds, flowers, seeds, and visiting insects outdoors. They could record what they see in notebooks and compare observations across seasons. For these reasons, a native garden would help wildlife, conserve water, and give students a useful place to learn.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the writer's opinion? What is the first reason given to support it?

2. Write two details from the first paragraph that support the reason about helping insects.

3. What is the second reason for planting the garden? Explain one detail that supports this reason.

4. What reason does the third paragraph give? Name two details that support that reason.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one improvement your school could make. Write four sentences: state your opinion, then give three logically ordered reasons, each supported by a fact or specific detail.

ANSWER KEY

Reasons That Grow

GRADE 5 · W.5.1b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the writer's opinion, number the three reasons in order, and circle the facts or details that support each reason. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the writer's opinion? What is the first reason given to support it?	**The writer thinks the school should plant a small native garden. The first reason is that it would give local insects a better place to find food.**
2	Write two details from the first paragraph that support the reason about helping insects.	**Bees and butterflies use nectar from flowers, and caterpillars eat leaves from certain plants.**
3	What is the second reason for planting the garden? Explain one detail that supports this reason.	**The second reason is that native plants can be practical because many need less extra water after establishing roots. Their roots are adapted to local soil and weather.**
4	What reason does the third paragraph give? Name two details that support that reason.	**The reason is that the garden would make science lessons more direct. Students could observe buds, flowers, seeds, and insects outdoors, and they could record observations and compare them across seasons.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should install a covered bike rack near the main entrance. First, a roof would keep bicycles drier during rain, so seats and handlebars would be easier to use. Second, placing the rack near the entrance would make it easier for riders to lock bicycles where adults can see them. Finally, a rack with spaces for many bicycles would keep bicycles from blocking sidewalks.

Accept reasonable school-improvement opinions when the response includes three distinct reasons in a sensible order. Each reason should have a related fact or concrete detail, not just a repeated opinion.