

Garden Plans Matter

See how a model informational text introduces and organizes a topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2a "Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables)..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each heading, underline the sentence that defines a pollinator garden, and label the details in the margins with C for classification, E for cause and effect, or T for table information.

Planning a Pollinator Garden

- ① Pollinator Garden: A pollinator garden is a planned area of plants that helps animals move pollen between flowers. This movement allows many plants to make seeds and fruits. Pollinators include bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and some bats. A garden can support these animals in a schoolyard, park, or yard. To be useful, it needs more than bright flowers. It also needs plants, water, and shelter that fit the pollinators living nearby during every season of the year.
- ② Plant Choices: Different pollinators need different resources. Bees visit flowers for nectar, which gives them energy, and pollen, which they carry as food for their young. Butterflies usually drink nectar through a long tube-like mouthpart, so flat flower clusters can give them a landing place. Hummingbirds sip nectar from tubular flowers. Native plants are often a strong choice because they match local seasons and may provide food for local insects. Plant several kinds so flowers bloom in spring, summer, and fall.
- ③ Plan for Safety and Shelter: Along with flowers, pollinators need places to rest and drink. A shallow dish with stones gives insects a safer water source than a deep container. Leave a small patch of bare soil for some ground-nesting bees, and avoid spraying pesticides where pollinators feed. The table organizes a simple plan. It lets readers compare each feature with its purpose quickly. Feature | Helps Flat flower cluster | Butterflies land while drinking nectar Tubular flower | Hummingbirds sip nectar Bare soil patch | Some bees nest

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What definition introduces the topic in the first paragraph, and what purpose does the paragraph give for this kind of garden?

2 How does the second paragraph organize information about pollinators?

3 What cause and effect relationship does the third paragraph explain about a shallow dish with stones?

4 How does the table aid a reader's understanding of the garden plan?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a short informational mini-article about a school feature that helps living things, such as a birdbath, compost bin, or shade tree. Give it a heading, introduce and define the feature, organize details using classification, comparison, or cause and effect, and add a three-row table that aids understanding.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each heading, underline the sentence that defines a pollinator garden, and label the details in the margins with C for classification, E for cause and effect, or T for table information. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What definition introduces the topic in the first paragraph, and what purpose does the paragraph give for this kind of garden?	A pollinator garden is a planned area of plants that helps animals move pollen between flowers. It supports pollinators and helps many plants make seeds and fruits.
2	How does the second paragraph organize information about pollinators?	It groups information by pollinator, then explains the food or flower feature each one uses.
3	What cause and effect relationship does the third paragraph explain about a shallow dish with stones?	Using a shallow dish with stones makes a water source safer for insects than a deep container.
4	How does the table aid a reader's understanding of the garden plan?	It quickly matches each garden feature with the pollinator benefit it provides.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Compost Corner A compost bin is a container where food scraps and dry leaves break down into material that enriches soil. Fruit peels and vegetable scraps add moisture, while dry leaves create air spaces. When the materials are mixed and kept damp, decomposers break them down. Finished compost can help garden plants grow. Material | Job Fruit peels | Add moisture Dry leaves | Create air spaces Finished compost | Enriches soil

Accept equivalent descriptions of the passage's definition, organization, cause and effect, and table purpose. For the open task, accept varied topics if the response has a clear heading, introduction with a definition, logical organization, and a useful three-row table.