# Garden Word Detectives

Use nearby words to unlock new word meanings.

**ELA.2.V.1.3** "Identify and use context clues, word relationships, reference materials, and/or background knowledge to determine the meaning of unknown words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline three words that may be new to you. Circle the nearby words that help explain each underlined word.

### Mina's Garden Visit

1. Mina visited a community garden after school. A gardener pointed to a row of sprouts, young plants just beginning to grow. Mina noticed that each tiny stem leaned toward the warm sunlight.

2. Near the tomato plants, Mina saw a puddle of water. The soil was soggy, or very wet, from the morning rain. She stepped carefully so her boots would not sink into the mud.

3. A busy bee moved from flower to flower. It gathered nectar, a sweet liquid inside flowers, to help make honey. Mina watched the bee carry yellow dust, called pollen, on its fuzzy legs.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does sprouts mean? Which words in the passage helped you figure it out?

2. What does soggy mean? Use clues from the second paragraph.

3. What does nectar mean? What word relationship in the passage helps explain it?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one sentence about a plant or animal. Use one word that may be new to a reader, then add clue words that explain it. Underline the new word and circle the clue words.

ANSWER KEY

# Garden Word Detectives

GRADE 2 · ELA.2.V.1.3

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three words that may be new to you. Circle the nearby words that help explain each underlined word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | What does sprouts mean? Which words in the passage helped you figure it out? | **Sprouts are young plants just beginning to grow. The passage says, "young plants just beginning to grow."** |
| 2 | What does soggy mean? Use clues from the second paragraph. | **Soggy means very wet. The clues are "puddle of water," "morning rain," and "mud."** |
| 3 | What does nectar mean? What word relationship in the passage helps explain it? | **Nectar is a sweet liquid inside flowers. The words after the comma explain the word.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The porcupine raised its __quills__, the (sharp, stiff hairs on its back), when it felt scared.

Accept meanings that match the passage and are supported by nearby clue words. For the open task, accept any accurate sentence with an underlined unfamiliar word and circled context clues that explain it.