Bat House Path

Track ideas across an informational text.

ELA.3.R.2.3 "Explain the development of an author's purpose in an informational text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the author wants readers to understand or do. Write 1, 2, and 3 beside your underlined details in reading order.

A Home for Bats

1 At sunset, bats fly out to search for food. Many kinds eat insects, including mosquitoes and moths. A single small bat can catch many insects in one night. Bats need quiet places to rest during the day, but old trees and barns are not always available near towns. This can make it harder for bats to find safe shelter.

2 People can build bat houses to give bats a resting spot. A bat house is a tall, narrow wooden box with small spaces inside. It is placed high on a pole or building where cats cannot reach it. In warm weather, a bat house may hold a group of bats. The bats can then leave at night to hunt insects nearby.

3 A bat house needs careful placement. It should receive several hours of sun and be mounted at least 10 feet above the ground. People should avoid disturbing bats by opening the box or touching them. A school or family can learn these steps before safely adding a bat house in an outdoor space at school or home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the author want readers to understand in the first paragraph?

2. Why does the author describe the shape and location of a bat house in the second paragraph?

3. What does the author want readers to do after reading the third paragraph?

4. Explain how the author's purpose develops from the first paragraph to the last paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a helpful item at school, such as a recycling bin, a water fountain, or a crosswalk. Write three sentences that show how an author's purpose could change from informing, to explaining, to guiding readers.

ANSWER KEY

Bat House Path

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.R.2.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the author wants readers to understand or do. Write 1, 2, and 3 beside your underlined details in reading order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the author want readers to understand in the first paragraph?	**Bats eat insects, but they may have trouble finding safe places to rest during the day.**
2	Why does the author describe the shape and location of a bat house in the second paragraph?	**The author explains how a bat house can provide bats with a safer resting place.**
3	What does the author want readers to do after reading the third paragraph?	**Learn the safe placement steps before adding a bat house.**
4	Explain how the author's purpose develops from the first paragraph to the last paragraph.	**The author first informs readers about bats and their need for shelter, then explains bat houses, and finally guides readers to use one carefully.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, the author's purpose is to inform readers that recycling bins can keep paper and cans out of trash. Next, the purpose is to explain how sorting helps workers make new products. Last, the purpose is to guide students to check labels and use the correct bin.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the purpose in each paragraph, such as informing, explaining, teaching, or guiding. For Question 4, responses should show that the purpose changes across the passage, not simply list facts.