Hummingbird Power Plan

Find the central idea and the details that support it.

ELA.3.R.2 "Reading Informational Text"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that show how hummingbirds get energy or help plants. Then write the central idea in the margin.

Busy Hummingbirds

1. Hummingbirds are tiny birds that get energy from flower nectar. Their long, narrow bills and tongues help them reach nectar deep inside blossoms. As a hummingbird drinks, pollen can stick to its head or bill. When the bird visits another flower, it may carry pollen there. This helps some flowering plants make seeds for the future.

2. A hummingbird's body is built for quick movement. Its wings beat in a figure-eight pattern, letting it hover in one place while it drinks. It can also fly backward, something only hummingbirds can do. These moves help a hummingbird reach flowers on thin branches. Fast wing beats use much energy, so hummingbirds must eat often during the day.

3. Some hummingbirds travel long distances when seasons change. For example, ruby-throated hummingbirds fly between eastern North America and Central America. Before a long trip, they eat extra food and store fat in their bodies. The stored fat gives them energy when flowers are hard to find. Like their hovering and long bills, this habit helps hummingbirds find the energy they need.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the central idea of the passage?

2. How does carrying pollen to another flower support the central idea?

3. How do hovering and flying backward support the central idea?

4. Why does the author include information about stored fat before migration?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences. In the first sentence, state the central idea of the passage. In the second sentence, use one detail from paragraph 1 and one detail from paragraph 3 to explain the central idea.

ANSWER KEY

Hummingbird Power Plan

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.R.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three details that show how hummingbirds get energy or help plants. Then write the central idea in the margin. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the central idea of the passage?	**Hummingbirds have special ways to get the energy they need, and their feeding can help flowering plants.**
2	How does carrying pollen to another flower support the central idea?	**It shows that when hummingbirds feed, they can help flowering plants make seeds.**
3	How do hovering and flying backward support the central idea?	**These movements help hummingbirds reach flowers and drink nectar for energy.**
4	Why does the author include information about stored fat before migration?	**It explains another way hummingbirds get energy when they travel long distances and cannot easily find flowers.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The passage explains that hummingbirds have special ways to get energy, and their feeding can help flowers. Their long bills and tongues reach nectar, and stored fat gives them energy during long trips.

Accept equivalent central ideas about hummingbirds using special features or habits to get energy and helping plants while feeding. For the open response, accept two accurate details from paragraphs 1 and 3 that clearly support the stated central idea.