Garden Text Detectives

Notice how different kinds of text share a topic.

ELA.3.R.3 "Reading Across Genres"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle one clue in each paragraph that shows what kind of text it is. Underline one garden detail that appears in more than one paragraph.

Three Views of a Garden

1. Garden News: The third-grade garden has six raised beds. Students planted lettuce, beans, and marigolds in April. Each bed has a small sign that names the plants. The garden needs about one inch of water each week, from rain or a hose. Bees visit the flowers, and the flowers help attract pollinators to the garden.

2. Maya's Garden Walk: Maya knelt beside the bean bed and saw a bee dusted with yellow pollen. “You are busy,” she whispered. Her friend Leo pointed to the plant sign. Together, they poured water slowly near the roots. Maya imagined the tiny seeds stretching underground like waking toes. Soon, she hoped, the beans would climb toward the sun.

3. Garden Jobs: First, check the soil with one finger. If the top feels dry, fill a watering can. Next, pour water near the roots, not on the leaves. Last, pull weeds before they grow large. Put tools back on the shelf. These steps help plants get water and space to grow so they can stay healthy all summer.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What kind of text is each paragraph? Name one clue from each paragraph that helped you decide.

2. What garden-care detail appears in both the story and the how-to text?

3. How is the purpose of paragraph 1 different from the purpose of paragraph 3?

4. How do the words First, Next, and Last help the reader in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a familiar topic, such as caring for a pet or packing a lunch. Write one story sentence about the topic and two numbered how-to steps, then tell the purpose of each kind of writing.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Text Detectives

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.R.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle one clue in each paragraph that shows what kind of text it is. Underline one garden detail that appears in more than one paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What kind of text is each paragraph? Name one clue from each paragraph that helped you decide.	**Paragraph 1 is an informational report, with facts such as six raised beds. Paragraph 2 is a story, with characters, dialogue, and imagined details. Paragraph 3 is a how-to text, with sequence words such as First, Next, and Last.**
2	What garden-care detail appears in both the story and the how-to text?	**Both say to pour water near the roots.**
3	How is the purpose of paragraph 1 different from the purpose of paragraph 3?	**Paragraph 1 gives facts about the garden. Paragraph 3 tells the reader steps for caring for the garden.**
4	How do the words First, Next, and Last help the reader in paragraph 3?	**They put the garden jobs in order so the reader can follow the steps.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Story: Amir smiled when the hamster carried a carrot into its house. 1. Fill the water bottle. 2. Put fresh food in the bowl. The story sentence entertains the reader. The steps tell the reader how to care for a hamster.

Accept reasonable genre clues and comparisons that are supported by the passage. For Part 3, accept a story detail, two ordered directions on the same topic, and accurate purposes for the two kinds of writing.