Wetland Word Work

Academic vocabulary in an evidence-based model text.

ELA.6.V.1.1 "Integrate academic vocabulary appropriate to grade level in speaking and writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle five academic vocabulary words that explain how the wetland project was studied or judged. Underline a nearby clue that helps show the meaning of each word.

Restoring a City Wetland

1. At the edge of Bayview, a wetland once collected rainwater before it reached nearby streets. Years of construction had compacted the soil and removed many native plants. As a result, heavy storms caused flooding in several blocks. The city launched a restoration project to improve the wetland's function. Workers reshaped shallow channels, planted reeds, and removed invasive species. Their goal was not to create a park decoration. They wanted the wetland to absorb water, filter pollution, and provide habitat for birds and frogs.

2. Before construction began, scientists conducted an assessment of the site. They measured how quickly water moved through the ground and documented the plants already growing there. This evidence helped planners identify the most effective changes. For example, they selected native sedges because their roots can stabilize soil. The planners also monitored water quality after each major storm. By comparing new data with earlier records, they could evaluate whether the restoration was reducing runoff and improving conditions downstream.

3. Residents participated in the project by reporting flooded areas and joining planting days. Their observations added local knowledge to the city's data. One resident explained that a channel near her home had overflowed for years, but water now drained more slowly after storms. Her statement was anecdotal, so planners did not treat it as final proof. Instead, they compared her observation with measurements from the site. The combined information supported a conclusion that the restored wetland was beginning to manage stormwater more effectively.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In one sentence, explain why restoration is a more precise word than repair for the work described in paragraph 1.

2. In one sentence, use the words evidence and identify to explain what planners did before construction.

3. In one sentence, use anecdotal and evaluate to explain why planners compared the resident's report with measurements.

4. Write one sentence using runoff and conclusion to state what the planners learned from the project.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a water problem at your school or in your neighborhood. Write a three-sentence proposal that uses at least four academic vocabulary words from the passage and explains how people could study the problem and judge whether a solution works.

ANSWER KEY

Wetland Word Work

GRADE 6 · ELA.6.V.1.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle five academic vocabulary words that explain how the wetland project was studied or judged. Underline a nearby clue that helps show the meaning of each word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In one sentence, explain why restoration is a more precise word than repair for the work described in paragraph 1.	**Restoration is precise because the project returned wetland functions by reshaping channels, planting reeds, and removing invasive species.**
2	In one sentence, use the words evidence and identify to explain what planners did before construction.	**Planners used evidence from water measurements and plant records to identify the most effective changes.**
3	In one sentence, use anecdotal and evaluate to explain why planners compared the resident's report with measurements.	**Because the resident's report was anecdotal, planners used measurements to evaluate whether the wetland was reducing runoff.**
4	Write one sentence using runoff and conclusion to state what the planners learned from the project.	**The planners reached the conclusion that the restoration was reducing runoff.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

To reduce puddles near the playground, our school should conduct an assessment after several rainy days. Students can collect data about where water gathers and use the evidence to identify a solution. Then the school can evaluate whether new drains or rain gardens reduce runoff.

Accept reasonable circled academic vocabulary words with nearby context clues, including assessment, evidence, identify, monitored, data, evaluate, anecdotal, and conclusion. For written responses, accept accurate sentence variations that use the required vocabulary naturally and support ideas with passage details or a logical original proposal.