

Pill Bug Records

Use careful records to show what happened in an investigation.

SC.3.N.1.3 "Keep records as appropriate, such as pictorial, written, or simple charts and graphs, of investigations conducted."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the words that tell what the team counted, and circle the words that tell how the team kept records. These details show how records help scientists study results.

A Damp or Dry Choice

- ① A science team wondered where pill bugs would gather. They placed ten pill bugs in a tray with two safe sides. One side had a damp paper towel. The other side had a dry paper towel. Every minute for five minutes, the team counted the pill bugs on each side.
- ② The team made a simple chart right after each count. A chart helped them keep the numbers in order and compare the two sides. They also wrote the time at the start of each row. Their chart is a record of what they observed during the investigation.

PILL BUG COUNT RECORD

Time (minutes)	Damp Side	Dry Side
1	6	4
2	7	3
3	8	2
4	7	3
5	9	1

- ③ At the end, the team looked at all five rows before making a claim. They saw more pill bugs on the damp side in every count. The team could draw a picture record too, using ten small bug marks each minute. Keeping careful records lets another class review the investigation and repeat it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did the team count every minute?

2 At what time were the most pill bugs on the damp side? Use the chart.

3 Why did the team write the time at the start of each chart row?

4 What is one other kind of record the team could make? What would it show?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Test which surface lets a toy car roll farther. Roll the same toy car down the same ramp onto a smooth floor and onto carpet, two times on each surface. Record each distance in centimeters in the table.

SURFACE	TRIAL	DISTANCE ROLLED (CM)

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the words that tell what the team counted, and circle the words that tell how the team kept records. These details show how records help scientists study results. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the team count every minute?	They counted the pill bugs on the damp side and the dry side.
2	At what time were the most pill bugs on the damp side? Use the chart.	At 5 minutes.
3	Why did the team write the time at the start of each chart row?	The time showed when each count was made and kept the numbers in order.
4	What is one other kind of record the team could make? What would it show?	They could make a picture record with ten small bug marks for each minute. It would show how many pill bugs were on each side.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

SURFACE	TRIAL	DISTANCE ROLLED (CM)
Smooth floor	1	85
Smooth floor	2	82
Carpet	1	34
Carpet	2	31

Accept records that include two trials on each surface and a measured distance for every trial. Distances will vary, but the same toy car and ramp should be used for all four trials.