Reasons That Persuade

See how reasons persuade a reader.

2.P.AC.1.a "Identify, apply, and analyze the literary, expository, and opinion (grades K-5) or rhetorical (grades 6-12) elements in texts, explaining or evaluating how specific elements affect the target audience and support the text's purpose. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells what the writer wants, number the two reason sentences that begin with First and Also, and circle the sentence that asks the principal to act.

A Feeder for the Library

1. Dear Principal Lee, our school should put a bird feeder by the library window. The library has a clear window near the book shelves. Students would be able to see the feeder from inside.

2. First, a feeder can help students learn about birds. We could keep a chart of the birds we see and look up their names in books. Watching closely teaches us to notice colors, sounds, and actions.

3. Also, the feeder would make the library a peaceful place. Please choose one with a clear cover and fill it with safe birdseed. Then students can enjoy birds without going outside, even on rainy days.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the writer want Principal Lee to do?

2. Who is the writer trying to convince? What words show this?

3. How might the reason about rainy days help convince Principal Lee?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences to Principal Lee about one change you want at school. State your opinion, give two reasons, and ask the principal to take one action.

ANSWER KEY

Reasons That Persuade

GRADE 2 · 2.P.AC.1.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells what the writer wants, number the two reason sentences that begin with First and Also, and circle the sentence that asks the principal to act. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the writer want Principal Lee to do?	**Put a bird feeder by the library window.**
2	Who is the writer trying to convince? What words show this?	**The writer is trying to convince Principal Lee. The words "Dear Principal Lee" show this.**
3	How might the reason about rainy days help convince Principal Lee?	**It shows that students can enjoy watching birds indoors even when it is rainy, so the feeder would be useful.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Principal Lee, our school should add a plant near the office. It can help us learn how living things grow, and it can make the hallway cheerful. Please choose a plant that is safe for children.

Accept equivalent answers that identify the bird feeder request, Principal Lee as the audience, and the rainy-day benefit. For the writing task, accept any school change with a clear opinion, two reasons, and a request for action.