Idea Detective

Find writing ideas in memory, texts, and talks.

2.P.EICC.4.c "Generate ideas for content by assessing prior knowledge, gathering information from texts, and engaging in discussions with others. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Mina's prior-knowledge ideas. Circle facts she learned from the book, and put a 1 beside the idea she got from her grandpa. These marks show where writers can find ideas.

Mina Plans a Seed Story

1. Mina wanted to write about how a seed grows. First, she thought about what she already knew. She remembered planting bean seeds in a cup. She knew that seeds need water and that a tiny plant can push up through soil.

2. Next, Mina read a library book about seeds. She learned that roots grow down into the soil. Roots take in water. Mina wrote "roots grow down" on her idea page because it was a new fact from the book.

3. Then Mina talked with her grandpa, who gardens. He told her that some seeds are carried by wind. Mina added a question: "Which seeds fly in the wind?" Now she had ideas from her memory, a text, and a talk.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write one idea Mina had before she read the book.

2. What new fact did Mina learn from the book? How did she save it for her writing?

3. What did Mina's grandpa tell her, and what question did it give her?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a topic you want to write about. Write a title and three idea notes: one thing you already know, one new fact from a text you read, and one idea you got by talking with someone.

ANSWER KEY

Idea Detective

GRADE 2 · 2.P.EICC.4.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline Mina's prior-knowledge ideas. Circle facts she learned from the book, and put a 1 beside the idea she got from her grandpa. These marks show where writers can find ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write one idea Mina had before she read the book.	**Seeds need water, or a tiny plant can push up through soil.**
2	What new fact did Mina learn from the book? How did she save it for her writing?	**She learned that roots grow down into the soil. She wrote "roots grow down" on her idea page.**
3	What did Mina's grandpa tell her, and what question did it give her?	**He told her that some seeds are carried by wind. She asked, "Which seeds fly in the wind?"**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Title: Pond Frogs I know frogs can jump. From a text: Frogs hatch from eggs as tadpoles. Talk idea: My brother said to describe the croaks we hear at the pond.

Accept a student-chosen topic with a clear title and three idea notes from the required sources. The text fact should be accurate, and the talk note should name or clearly show an idea gained from another person.