Butterfly Journey

Read cursive words and sentences about a butterfly journey.

3.F.H.3.a "Read phrases and sentences written in cursive."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle every cursive form of the word monarch. Underline the one sentence that tells what happens in March.

A Monarch Journey

1 Each fall, monarch butterflies begin a long trip. Many monarchs in the eastern United States and Canada fly south to mountain forests in central Mexico. They do not make the whole trip in one day. They travel for many days, using the sun and Earth's magnetic field to help guide them. A monarch may rest on a tree branch when rain or strong wind arrives.

2 On the way, monarchs need nectar from flowers. Nectar gives them energy for flying. In spring, a female monarch looks for milkweed leaves because her caterpillars can eat those leaves. People can help by planting native milkweed and flowers that bloom at different times. A garden with no pesticides can be a safer place for monarchs, bees, and other insects.

③ During winter, thousands of monarchs may gather in the same forest. Their orange and black wings can cover branches like bright leaves. In March, the butterflies begin moving north again. No single monarch completes the full trip south and then back north. New generations continue the journey. Scientists and community members count monarchs to learn whether the population is growing or shrinking.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What place do many monarchs fly to in the sentence that begins “Many monarchs”?

2. What gives monarchs energy in the cursive sentence that begins “Nectar”?

3. When do butterflies begin moving north again?

4. Why do scientists and community members count monarchs?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a cursive sentence that you did not underline. Copy it in print, then write a 5- to 8-word heading that tells its main idea.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle every cursive form of the word monarch. Underline the one sentence that tells what happens in March. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What place do many monarchs fly to in the sentence that begins “Many monarchs”?	**Mountain forests in central Mexico.**
2	What gives monarchs energy in the cursive sentence that begins “Nectar”?	**Nectar from flowers.**
3	When do butterflies begin moving north again?	**In March.**
4	Why do scientists and community members count monarchs?	**To learn whether the population is growing or shrinking.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Print sentence: Their orange and black wings can cover branches like bright leaves. Heading: Monarch wings brighten winter forest branches.

Students should circle nine forms of monarch or monarchs and underline “In March, the butterflies begin moving north again.” Accept equivalent wording for question answers and any accurately copied, non-underlined sentence with a 5- to 8-word heading that matches its main idea.