Words at Work

Notice how precise words make an informational text clear.

3.L.V.1.b "Use grade-level general, academic, and specialized vocabulary words and phrases to enhance communication in a variety of settings. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three specialized words that name bee or plant science ideas. Circle the three academic words that tell how Mr. Lee studies the hive.

A Beekeeper at Work

1. On a warm spring morning, Maya visits a beekeeper named Mr. Lee. He wears a veil to protect his face and gloves to cover his hands. A beekeeper cares for honey bees in wooden boxes called hives. Mr. Lee uses a smoker, a tool that makes cool smoke. The smoke helps the bees stay calm while he checks the hive.

2. First, Mr. Lee observes the bees as they fly in and out. He examines a frame, which is a flat piece inside the hive where bees build wax cells. Some cells hold honey. Other cells hold young bees that are growing. He compares the number of full honey cells with the number of empty cells. This information helps him decide whether the colony has enough food.

3. Bees collect nectar and pollen from flowers. Nectar is a sweet liquid that bees can turn into honey. Pollen is a powder that can stick to a bee's body. When a bee moves from flower to flower, it can pollinate plants by carrying pollen. Mr. Lee explains that pollination helps many plants make seeds, fruits, and new flowers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write the three academic words in paragraph 2 that tell how Mr. Lee studies the hive.

2. In this passage, what is a frame?

3. Use the specialized word pollinate in a sentence that tells what a bee does.

4. Which word is more precise for a science note, nectar or stuff? Use a detail from paragraph 3 to explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum sign about a different animal. Use at least one general word, one academic word, and two specialized words, and give clues that explain the two specialized words.

ANSWER KEY

Words at Work

GRADE 3 · 3.L.V.1.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three specialized words that name bee or plant science ideas. Circle the three academic words that tell how Mr. Lee studies the hive. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write the three academic words in paragraph 2 that tell how Mr. Lee studies the hive.	**observes, examines, compares**
2	In this passage, what is a frame?	**A frame is a flat piece inside the hive where bees build wax cells.**
3	Use the specialized word pollinate in a sentence that tells what a bee does.	**A bee can pollinate plants by carrying pollen.**
4	Which word is more precise for a science note, nectar or stuff? Use a detail from paragraph 3 to explain.	**Nectar is more precise because it names the sweet liquid that bees collect from flowers and can turn into honey.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the beach, you may see a sea turtle crawl from the waves. Scientists observe its flippers, the wide body parts it uses to swim. Tiny hatchlings, or baby sea turtles, move toward the ocean after they leave the nest.

Accept accurate academic words that describe studying, such as observe, examine, and compare in the correct form. For the museum sign, accept any accurate animal topic that has three sentences, the required vocabulary types, and context clues for two specialized words.