Bee Word Detectives

Use context to sort and explain precise words.

3.L.V.1 "General, Academic, & Specialized Vocabulary: Acquire and use general, academic, and specialized vocabulary words and phrases with precision in a variety of settings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline academic words that tell how scientists learn, and circle specialized bee or plant words. Write G above two general, everyday words to show how precise vocabulary makes the information clearer.

Busy Bees at Work

1. On a sunny morning, Maya watched honeybees visit the garden. Each bee landed on a flower and drank nectar, a sweet liquid made by the flower. Yellow pollen stuck to the bee's fuzzy body. The bee carried pollen to another flower. This movement helps some plants make seeds, fruits, and new plants during the season.

2. Scientists observe bees to learn how pollination works. Pollination happens when pollen moves from one flower to another flower of the same kind. Bees use a long, tube-like mouthpart called a proboscis to sip nectar. A scientist may record the number of flowers a bee visits, then compare the results from different days in spring and fall.

3. Bees live and work together in a colony. A colony can have one queen, many workers, and male bees called drones. Workers gather nectar and pollen, care for young bees, and help protect the hive. Using exact words such as colony, worker, and hive helps readers understand each bee's job and home more clearly each day.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In paragraph 1, what does nectar mean? Use words from the passage.

2. Which academic word in paragraph 2 means to watch or study carefully?

3. What specialized word names the long, tube-like mouthpart bees use to sip nectar?

4. Why does paragraph 3 use the word colony instead of only saying group?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label about a sea turtle. Use at least one general word, one academic word, and two specialized words. Underline the academic word and circle the specialized words.

ANSWER KEY

Bee Word Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.L.V.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline academic words that tell how scientists learn, and circle specialized bee or plant words. Write G above two general, everyday words to show how precise vocabulary makes the information clearer. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, what does nectar mean? Use words from the passage.	**Nectar is a sweet liquid made by a flower.**
2	Which academic word in paragraph 2 means to watch or study carefully?	**observe**
3	What specialized word names the long, tube-like mouthpart bees use to sip nectar?	**proboscis**
4	Why does paragraph 3 use the word colony instead of only saying group?	**Colony precisely names bees that live and work together.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

__Observe__ a sea turtle as it swims near the beach. A sea turtle is a ◯reptile◯ with strong ◯flippers◯. A baby turtle, called a ◯hatchling◯, uses its flippers to reach the water.

Accept reasonable general-word choices because students may mark different everyday words. Specialized terms should be used accurately, and academic words should fit the action of learning, describing, or studying.