Garden Choice Detectives

Use information from texts to make and explain a choice.

3.P.EICC.2.b "Make use of texts to build knowledge, develop skills, make informed decisions, and share information and ideas. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline facts that helped the club choose a plant. Number 1 and 2 beside the two facts the club used in its note.

A Garden for Monarchs

1. The third-grade garden club wants to help monarch butterflies. Monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves, while adult monarchs drink nectar from many flowers. The club read a park brochure that explained these needs. The brochure also said that native plants grow naturally in an area and often need less extra water after they are established. This information gave the club a starting point for a garden plan.

2. Next, the club compared two plant cards from a local nursery. Card A described tropical milkweed. It grows quickly and has bright orange flowers, but it is not native to the area. Card B described swamp milkweed. It is native, has pink flowers, and is a food plant for monarch caterpillars. Both cards said the plants need sunlight. The club used the cards to compare choices, not just pick the brightest flower.

3. After reading, the club chose swamp milkweed for one sunny garden bed. They chose it because the brochure explained that native plants may need less extra water, and the plant card said swamp milkweed feeds monarch caterpillars. The club shared its decision in a note to the principal. The note named the plant, gave two reasons, and asked for permission to plant it. Reading the texts helped the club make and explain a thoughtful choice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What did the brochure teach the club about native plants that could help with its garden plan?

2. How did the plant cards help the club make a choice?

3. Which plant did the club choose? Give two reasons from the texts for its choice.

4. How did the club share its decision with the principal?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence note to a new garden club. Explain one fact from the brochure, one fact a plant card can tell, and how using both texts helps the club make a choice.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Choice Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.P.EICC.2.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline facts that helped the club choose a plant. Number 1 and 2 beside the two facts the club used in its note. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the brochure teach the club about native plants that could help with its garden plan?	**Native plants grow naturally in an area and often need less extra water after they are established.**
2	How did the plant cards help the club make a choice?	**The cards helped the club compare the plants' features and needs instead of choosing only by flower color.**
3	Which plant did the club choose? Give two reasons from the texts for its choice.	**The club chose swamp milkweed because it is native and it feeds monarch caterpillars.**
4	How did the club share its decision with the principal?	**The club wrote a note that named the plant, gave two reasons, and asked for permission to plant it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The brochure explains that native plants may need less extra water after they are established. A plant card can tell whether a plant is food for monarch caterpillars. Using both texts helps the club choose a plant that supports butterflies and fits its garden.

Accept equivalent answers that use information from the brochure and plant cards. For the open task, check for exactly three sentences, one brochure fact, one plant-card fact, and an explanation of how the texts guide a choice.