# Tide Pool Clues

Use nearby details to figure out word meanings.

**4.L.V.3.a** "Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) to determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple- meaning words and phrases. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Circle the words or phrases cluster, tube feet, grip, and both uses of current. Underline the nearby words that explain what each circled word or phrase means.

### Low-Tide Discoveries

1. At low tide, Ranger Maya led a group of students across the rocky shore. In a shallow pool, they saw a cluster of mussels, or a group growing close together. Maya explained that mussels use strong threads to hold on when waves crash. The animals stayed packed tightly along the rock, where the water was cold and clear.

2. Nearby, a sea star moved slowly over the wet stone. It used tube feet, tiny soft parts on its underside, to grip the rock. Grip means to hold something firmly so it does not slip away. When a small crab passed by, the sea star curled its arms around it and began to eat its meal.

3. Maya pointed to a narrow channel where water rushed back to the ocean. "Watch the current," she said, meaning the moving water. Then she checked a current chart, a chart with the newest tide times. The word current has more than one meaning. By using nearby words, the students knew which meaning fit each sentence.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does cluster mean in the first paragraph? Which words help you know?

2. What are tube feet? Use details from the passage to explain.

3. What does grip mean in the second paragraph?

4. What does current mean when Maya checks a current chart? What nearby words give the clue?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences using the same multiple-meaning word in two different ways. Include context clues in each sentence so a reader can figure out each meaning.

ANSWER KEY

# Tide Pool Clues

GRADE 4 · 4.L.V.3.a

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the words or phrases cluster, tube feet, grip, and both uses of current. Underline the nearby words that explain what each circled word or phrase means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | What does cluster mean in the first paragraph? Which words help you know? | **Cluster means a group growing close together. The clue is "or a group growing close together."** |
| 2 | What are tube feet? Use details from the passage to explain. | **Tube feet are tiny, soft parts on a sea star's underside that help it move and hold on.** |
| 3 | What does grip mean in the second paragraph? | **Grip means to hold something firmly so it does not slip away.** |
| 4 | What does current mean when Maya checks a current chart? What nearby words give the clue? | **Current means newest or most up-to-date. The clue is "a chart with the newest tide times."** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At dusk, a bat, a small mammal with wings, flew from the barn. Later, I picked up a bat, a wooden stick used to hit a ball, from the dugout.

Accept equivalent meanings when students use details from the passage as context clues. For the open task, accept any two accurate meanings of the same word if each sentence includes a clear clue.