Dance With Facts

See how a science article chooses information.

4.P.AC.3.b "Apply knowledge of how mode and genre impact what kinds of ideas and information are included in texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that teach you about real honeybee behavior. Circle the sentence that explains why a science article leaves out characters and dialogue, so you can see how its genre shapes the information it includes.

Signals in the Hive

1. On a warm day, a honeybee may find a patch of flowers far from its hive. Back at the hive, it performs a waggle dance on the honeycomb. The bee moves in a figure-eight pattern while shaking its body. Other worker bees follow the dancer with their antennae to learn about the food source outside.

2. The dance gives clues about both direction and distance. The angle of the waggle run compared with straight up tells bees the direction of the flowers compared with the sun. A longer waggle run usually means the food is farther away. This information helps the colony send workers to places with nectar and pollen to eat and store.

3. A science article includes these observations and explanations so readers can understand a real animal behavior. It does not invent a bee hero, a problem, or dialogue between insects. Those ideas could belong in a fictional story. Instead, this article focuses on how the dance works and why it helps honeybees find food for their colony.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What real behavior does the article explain? How does this topic fit a science article?

2. Give two details the author includes because this is an informational science article.

3. Why would a bee hero and dialogue between insects not fit this article's genre?

4. How does the last paragraph help you tell the difference between an informational article and a fictional story?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose an animal behavior you know. Write a three-sentence informational mini-article with two true facts and one explanation. Do not add characters, dialogue, or invented problems.

Dance With Facts

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three details that teach you about real honeybee behavior. Circle the sentence that explains why a science article leaves out characters and dialogue, so you can see how its genre shapes the information it includes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What real behavior does the article explain? How does this topic fit a science article?	**It explains the honeybee waggle dance. A science article can explain a real animal behavior using facts.**
2	Give two details the author includes because this is an informational science article.	**Answers may include that the dance is a figure-eight pattern, workers use antennae to follow it, the dance shows direction, or a longer waggle run shows greater distance.**
3	Why would a bee hero and dialogue between insects not fit this article's genre?	**A bee hero and dialogue are invented story elements. This science article gives facts and explanations about real honeybee behavior.**
4	How does the last paragraph help you tell the difference between an informational article and a fictional story?	**It says an informational article uses observations and explanations, while a fictional story can include a hero, a problem, and dialogue.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Emperor penguins live in Antarctica, where winter temperatures can be very cold. During storms, they huddle closely and take turns moving from the chilly outside of the group toward the warmer center. This behavior helps them save heat.

Accept accurate animal facts and explanations that fit an informational article. The response should have exactly three sentences, include at least two facts and one explanation, and avoid fictional story elements.