Bats Above Traffic

Annotate a scientific problem, test, and result.

4.P.EICC.3 "Comprehension Strategies: Engage with a range of complex texts for a variety of tasks and purposes, accessing and using strategies for comprehension* before, during, and after reading as part of the meaning-making process."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline one detail in each paragraph that explains the problem, the test, or the result. Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of the study.

A Safer Flight Path

1. Each spring and fall, millions of Mexican free-tailed bats travel between central Mexico and parts of the United States. Near busy roads, bats may fly low while searching for insects. Cars can strike them. In Texas, scientists noticed that bats often crossed a highway near a bridge, so they studied how to make this trip safer.

2. The researchers used cameras and sound recorders to learn when and where bats crossed. Then they placed tall poles with nets beside the road. The nets guided bats upward, above the traffic. At first, some bats flew around the nets. Over time, more bats used the higher path, especially during the busiest part of the night.

3. The project did not solve every problem bats face. Lights from buildings can confuse bats, and fewer insects can mean less food. Still, the road study showed that people can change a dangerous place. By watching carefully, testing an idea, and checking results over time, scientists found one way to help bats cross safely near roads.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Before reading, the title might make you predict that the text will explain how bats can cross traffic safely. Which detail confirms this prediction?

2. What problem led the scientists to study the road near the bridge?

3. What did the researchers do before they placed the poles with nets?

4. After reading, write one sentence that summarizes the study's problem, test, and result.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a nonfiction page or article you are reading. Write its title, one prediction based on the title, and three numbered details you would mark while reading. Then write a two-sentence summary of the text.

ANSWER KEY

Bats Above Traffic

GRADE 4 · 4.P.EICC.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

As you read, underline one detail in each paragraph that explains the problem, the test, or the result. Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of the study. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Before reading, the title might make you predict that the text will explain how bats can cross traffic safely. Which detail confirms this prediction?	**The nets guided bats upward, above the traffic.**
2	What problem led the scientists to study the road near the bridge?	**Bats flew low near busy roads while searching for insects, and cars could strike them.**
3	What did the researchers do before they placed the poles with nets?	**They used cameras and sound recorders to learn when and where bats crossed.**
4	After reading, write one sentence that summarizes the study's problem, test, and result.	**Scientists tested nets beside a Texas road to guide bats above traffic, and over time more bats used the higher path.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Title: How Beavers Build Dams. Prediction: I predict I will learn how beavers change a stream. Marked details: 1. Beavers carry branches and mud. 2. A dam slows moving water. 3. A pond can protect a beaver lodge. Summary: Beavers build dams from natural materials, and the dams slow water. The pond behind a dam can provide a safer place for their lodges.

Accept a reasonable title-based prediction in Question 1 if the student supports it with a correct passage detail. For Question 4, accept summaries that include the road danger, the nets, and the result that more bats used the higher path.