Roof With Purpose

Use main ideas and details to follow an informational text.

5.P.EICC.1.d "Build a repertoire of comprehension and composition skills, strategies, and techniques, drawing from them as needed to aid the interpretation and construction of texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the main-idea sentence in each paragraph, then circle one detail that supports it, so you can notice how the writer builds each idea.

A Garden Above the Street

1. On the roof of a library in Chicago, gardeners grow tomatoes, beans, and herbs in raised beds. The garden does more than provide food. Soil and plants absorb some rainwater, so less water rushes into street drains during storms. The plants also make the roof cooler in summer by shading the building and releasing water vapor.

2. Rooftop gardens can help people, too. At the library, volunteers pick ripe vegetables and share them with a nearby food pantry. Bees visit the flowering herbs, which helps pollinate plants in the area. Because the roof is easy to see from upper windows, students can watch seeds sprout and insects visit without leaving the building.

3. These benefits come with challenges. A roof must be strong enough to hold wet soil, plants, and people. Gardeners also need a plan for watering during dry weeks. Still, the library garden shows how one unused space can serve several purposes: managing rain, growing food, supporting pollinators, and giving students a place to observe nature.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What main idea did you underline in paragraph 1? Explain how one circled detail supports that idea.

2. Which detail from paragraph 2 best supports the idea that the garden helps the community? Explain your choice.

3. Why does the writer begin paragraph 3 with the sentence, "These benefits come with challenges"?

4. Write one central-idea sentence that includes information from all three paragraphs.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine that your school changes an unused outdoor corner into a reading garden. Write 3 sentences: one clear main-idea sentence and two supporting details. Underline your main-idea sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Roof With Purpose

GRADE 5 · 5.P.EICC.1.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the main-idea sentence in each paragraph, then circle one detail that supports it, so you can notice how the writer builds each idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What main idea did you underline in paragraph 1? Explain how one circled detail supports that idea.	**The garden does more than provide food. One supporting detail is that the soil and plants absorb rainwater, so less water rushes into street drains.**
2	Which detail from paragraph 2 best supports the idea that the garden helps the community? Explain your choice.	**Volunteers share ripe vegetables with a nearby food pantry. This helps people in the community get food.**
3	Why does the writer begin paragraph 3 with the sentence, "These benefits come with challenges"?	**It signals a shift from the garden's benefits to the problems gardeners must solve.**
4	Write one central-idea sentence that includes information from all three paragraphs.	**The library's rooftop garden provides environmental and community benefits, but it also needs careful planning.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A reading garden could give students a calm outdoor place to read. Shade trees could make the area cooler on sunny days. A small shelf of weather-safe books could help classes choose books nearby.

Accept equivalent main ideas and details when they are supported by the passage. For the writing task, accept any three-sentence response with a clear main idea and two details that support it.