Reef Reality Check

Compare what you thought with what the text shows.

5.P.EICC.3.c "Draw from, compare, build, and integrate prior knowledge with the material in the text, addressing inconsistencies or gaps and adding to knowledge repertoires as appropriate. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that corrects an earlier idea, circle two details that add to it, and write a 1 beside one detail that makes you ask a new question.

What Corals Really Are

1. Coral reefs look like colorful underwater gardens, so some visitors may think corals are plants or rocks. Prior knowledge can help readers notice what seems familiar, but it must be tested. Corals are animals. Each coral is made of tiny animals called polyps. Polyps have mouths and use tentacles to catch small food drifting in the water.

2. Another detail adds to this idea. Many reef-building corals contain tiny algae that live inside their tissues. The algae use sunlight to make sugars, and the corals use some of those sugars. In return, the coral gives the algae a protected place and materials they need. This partnership helps explain why many reefs grow best in clear, sunlit, shallow water.

3. Prior knowledge might suggest that a pale coral is simply old or covered with sand. However, coral bleaching happens when stress, often unusually warm water, causes corals to lose their algae. A bleached coral is still alive at first, but it has less food from algae and is more likely to die if stressful conditions continue. Readers can revise an earlier idea after learning this evidence.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What idea might visitors have because reefs look like underwater gardens, and how does the text correct that idea?

2. Which new detail explains why many reefs grow best in sunlit, shallow water?

3. How should a reader revise the idea that a pale coral is old or covered with sand?

4. What does the passage not tell you about a bleached coral after stressful conditions stop?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence revised knowledge note using only the passage. State one idea a reader might have before reading, revise it with two text details, and ask one question the passage leaves unanswered.

ANSWER KEY

Reef Reality Check

GRADE 5 · 5.P.EICC.3.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that corrects an earlier idea, circle two details that add to it, and write a 1 beside one detail that makes you ask a new question. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What idea might visitors have because reefs look like underwater gardens, and how does the text correct that idea?	**Visitors might think corals are plants or rocks. The text explains that corals are animals made of tiny polyps.**
2	Which new detail explains why many reefs grow best in sunlit, shallow water?	**Algae living in many corals use sunlight to make sugars, and the corals use some of those sugars.**
3	How should a reader revise the idea that a pale coral is old or covered with sand?	**A pale coral may be bleached because stress, often warm water, caused it to lose its algae.**
4	What does the passage not tell you about a bleached coral after stressful conditions stop?	**The passage does not explain whether or how a bleached coral can recover after stressful conditions stop.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A reader might think coral is a plant because a reef looks like an underwater garden. I now know coral is made of animal polyps and that many corals receive sugars from algae living in their tissues. I wonder whether a bleached coral can recover after the water becomes less stressful.

For the marking job, accept the correction that corals are animals, any two accurate added details, and a reasonable question connected to a marked detail. In Part 3, accept varied wording when the response includes an earlier idea, two accurate passage details, and a genuine unanswered question.