Turtle Nest Watch

Notice how a message guides its intended readers.

5.P.ST.2 "Author, Audience, & Purpose: Interpret and construct texts by developing and applying knowledge of the strategies and techniques authors use to accommodate the target audience and achieve the text's purpose."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show who this text is for, circle each action visitors are asked to take, and number the facts that explain why the actions matter.

Help Sea Turtles Nest Safely

1. Each summer, sea turtles crawl onto our beach after dark to lay eggs in the sand. By morning, the mother has returned to the ocean, but her nest remains. A single nest may hold about 100 eggs. Park rangers ask every beach visitor to help protect these quiet, temporary nurseries along the shore during nesting season.

2. If you visit at night, use a red flashlight instead of a bright white one. White light can confuse hatchlings, which follow the brightest horizon as they crawl toward the sea. Keep your distance if you see a turtle. Do not touch her, and do not use a camera flash. Your calm choices can give hatchlings a safer start.

3. Look for the rope and signs that mark nesting areas. Rangers place them there so people can enjoy the beach without stepping on nests. Please carry your litter home, fill in holes that could trap a hatchling, and tell a younger child why the ropes matter. Protecting one nest helps the beach welcome wildlife for future visitors.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who most likely wrote this text? What detail tells you?

2. Who is the target audience? Give two clues from the text.

3. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text?

4. Name two techniques the author uses to achieve the purpose. Explain how each technique helps.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence sign for visitors at a school garden. Persuade them to protect pollinators, and include one accurate fact, one direct action, and a reason that fits visitors.

ANSWER KEY

Turtle Nest Watch

GRADE 5 · 5.P.ST.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show who this text is for, circle each action visitors are asked to take, and number the facts that explain why the actions matter. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who most likely wrote this text? What detail tells you?	**Park rangers wrote it. The first paragraph says that park rangers ask beach visitors to protect nests.**
2	Who is the target audience? Give two clues from the text.	**The target audience is beach visitors, especially nighttime visitors and families. Clues include "If you visit at night" and "tell a younger child."**
3	What is the author's main purpose for writing this text?	**The author's purpose is to persuade and instruct beach visitors to protect sea turtle nests and hatchlings.**
4	Name two techniques the author uses to achieve the purpose. Explain how each technique helps.	**The author uses direct commands, such as "Keep your distance," to tell visitors exactly what to do. The author also gives facts about eggs and confused hatchlings to explain why visitors' actions matter.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Bees and butterflies carry pollen from flower to flower, helping many plants make seeds. Stay on the path and leave flowers for pollinators to visit. Your careful steps help the garden grow food and blooms.

Accept reasonable evidence-based descriptions of the audience, purpose, and techniques. For the sign, accept responses that clearly address garden visitors and include an accurate fact, a direct action, and a reason to protect pollinators.