Monarch Trail Choices

Analyze how a trail guide serves its visitors.

6.P.ST.2.c "Draw from knowledge of how authors consider context and audience to determine which information and ideas to highlight, which text design is most accessible, which word choices and language structures are most effective..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle two clues that show who the guide is for. Underline information that helps visitors act, and box two design or language choices that make the guide easy to use.

Monarch Garden Trail Guide

1. START HERE: Welcome, young trail explorers! This garden is a rest stop for monarch butterflies. In spring and fall, monarchs travel long distances between breeding areas in North America and wintering sites in Mexico or coastal California. The bright map at the gate shows the three places to visit. Follow the yellow arrows to the milkweed patch first. Monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves, so look for striped caterpillars or tiny white eggs under the leaves. Use your eyes, not your hands, to protect the plants and insects.

2. LOOK CLOSELY: Pause at the low wooden sign, where a large picture names each plant. Purple coneflowers and golden asters offer nectar to adult monarchs. A butterfly's long journey is not a race with one winner. It is more like a relay, because several generations may continue the migration. Notice the dates on the small calendar beside the picture. They show when local butterflies are most likely to be active. If you bring a notebook, sketch one plant or insect you see. Leave flowers, eggs, and caterpillars where they are.

3. SHARE THE PATH: Visiting with a younger child or a grandparent? Read the blue signs aloud, or use the QR code to hear them. The signs use short sentences and large print so people can read them while standing on the trail. Tell a partner one surprising fact, then ask, "What do you notice?" Your question can turn a quiet walk into a discovery. Before you leave, place litter in the bin. A clean garden gives butterflies and people more room to visit.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the most likely audience for this guide? Give two details from the guide that support your answer.

2. Why does the author include information about milkweed, caterpillars, nectar, and adult monarchs?

3. Identify two text design choices that help visitors use the guide. Explain how each choice helps.

4. What does the comparison of migration to a relay help readers understand?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 35-50-word trail sign for families visiting a pond. Include a clear heading, at least two short action sentences, and one comparison that helps visitors understand how to protect pond animals.

ANSWER KEY

Monarch Trail Choices

GRADE 6 · 6.P.ST.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle two clues that show who the guide is for. Underline information that helps visitors act, and box two design or language choices that make the guide easy to use. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the most likely audience for this guide? Give two details from the guide that support your answer.	**The guide is for families and young visitors. "Young trail explorers," the low sign, and the suggestion to read signs aloud to a younger child or grandparent support this answer.**
2	Why does the author include information about milkweed, caterpillars, nectar, and adult monarchs?	**The information helps visitors know what to look for and understand why the garden has different plants. Caterpillars need milkweed, while adult monarchs drink nectar from flowers.**
3	Identify two text design choices that help visitors use the guide. Explain how each choice helps.	**The bright map and yellow arrows help visitors follow the trail. Large pictures, large print, short sentences, and QR audio help people read or hear information more easily.**
4	What does the comparison of migration to a relay help readers understand?	**It helps readers understand that several generations of monarchs may continue the migration, rather than one butterfly completing the whole journey alone.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

MEET THE POND NEIGHBORS Quiet feet help frogs stay safe. Look along the muddy edge for ripples, tadpoles, and water striders. A pond is a busy apartment building, with each animal needing space. Keep hands out of the water, and carry all snack wrappers home.

Accept supported answers that identify the guide's family or young visitor audience and explain how specific information, design, language, or comparison choices fit that audience. For the sign, accept 35-50 words with a heading, two short action sentences, a relevant comparison, and advice that protects pond animals.