Worms at Work

Find the facts behind an author's points.

2.RC.9 "Describe how an author uses facts to support specific points in a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle one sentence in each paragraph that tells an author's point. Underline one fact in each paragraph that helps show that point is true.

Earthworms Help Plants

1. Earthworms do work under the ground. As they crawl, they make long tunnels in the soil. Air and rainwater can move through these tunnels to plant roots. That is one way earthworms help plants grow.

2. Earthworms also help make soil rich. They eat dead leaves and other dead plant parts. Then they leave tiny bits of waste in the soil. This waste has nutrients that plants can use as they grow.

3. Earthworms need to stay wet to live. They breathe through their skin, and their skin must be damp for this to work. On a dry, sunny day, many earthworms stay deep underground, where the soil is wetter.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. The author says earthworms help plants grow by making tunnels. What fact about the tunnels supports this point?

2. Which fact about worm waste supports the author's point that earthworms make soil rich?

3. Which fact about worm skin supports the point that earthworms need to stay wet?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new point about why earthworms are helpful. Support it with one fact about their tunnels and one fact about their waste. Write three sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Worms at Work

GRADE 2 · 2.RC.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle one sentence in each paragraph that tells an author's point. Underline one fact in each paragraph that helps show that point is true. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	The author says earthworms help plants grow by making tunnels. What fact about the tunnels supports this point?	**Air and rainwater can move through the tunnels to plant roots.**
2	Which fact about worm waste supports the author's point that earthworms make soil rich?	**The waste has nutrients that plants can use as they grow.**
3	Which fact about worm skin supports the point that earthworms need to stay wet?	**Their skin must be damp for them to breathe through it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Earthworms help plants in two ways. Their tunnels let air and rainwater move to plant roots. Their waste has nutrients that plants can use.

For the markings, accept a point and a matching fact in each paragraph. For Your Turn, accept any clear new point supported by both a tunnel fact and a waste fact.