Under the Log

Find useful facts and record them in your own words.

3.W.6.d "Record relevant information in their own words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline four facts you could use in notes about pill bugs. Circle key words in each fact to help you write the notes in your own words.

Meet the Pill Bug

1. If you lift a wet log, you might spot a pill bug. It has a hard, gray shell and seven pairs of legs. Although many people call it a bug, it is a crustacean, like a crab. Pill bugs breathe with special parts that must stay damp. That is why they hide in cool, moist places during the day.

2. At night, pill bugs come out to eat. They feed on fallen leaves and bits of dead plants. As they chew, those pieces break into smaller bits. Tiny living things in the soil help break the bits down even more. This process helps return nutrients to the soil, where plants can use them. A garden with many pill bugs has busy helpers under its leaves.

3. When a pill bug is scared, it can curl into a tight ball. Its hard outer shell then covers its soft underside. This may help protect it from some hungry animals. Not every small gray creature under a log can do this. A sow bug looks similar, but it cannot roll into a full ball. Looking closely helps you tell these two small animals apart.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why do pill bugs often stay in damp places during the day? Explain in your own words.

2. Write a note in your own words about what pill bugs eat.

3. How can pill bugs help garden soil? Explain in your own words.

4. How does a pill bug protect its soft underside? Explain in your own words.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A classmate says a pill bug is an insect and a sow bug can roll into a full ball. Write three sentences that correct both ideas and give one more detail that helps someone recognize a pill bug. Use your own words.

ANSWER KEY

Under the Log

GRADE 3 · 3.W.6.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline four facts you could use in notes about pill bugs. Circle key words in each fact to help you write the notes in your own words. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why do pill bugs often stay in damp places during the day? Explain in your own words.	**Their breathing parts need moisture, so they stay where it is cool and damp.**
2	Write a note in your own words about what pill bugs eat.	**Pill bugs eat fallen leaves and other dead plant pieces.**
3	How can pill bugs help garden soil? Explain in your own words.	**They chew dead plants into small pieces, helping nutrients return to the soil.**
4	How does a pill bug protect its soft underside? Explain in your own words.	**It curls into a ball so its hard shell covers its soft underside.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A pill bug is a crustacean, not an insect. A sow bug cannot make a complete ball, but a pill bug can. A pill bug has seven pairs of legs.

Accept accurate paraphrases that keep the meaning of the passage. For Part 3, the extra detail may describe the pill bug's legs or hard, gray shell.