Tide Pool Clues

Use nearby words and subheadings to unlock meaning.

4.RC.10 "Apply context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph context) and text features (e.g., charts, headings/subheadings, font/format) to determine the meanings of unknown words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each bold word in the passage. Underline a clue in a sentence or subheading that helps you figure out what it means.

Life Between the Tides

1. *When the Sea Pulls Back* At low tide, the waterline moves away from the shore. Patches of rock that were underwater become **exposed** to the air. Tiny pools stay behind in dips between the rocks. A child walking nearby might see a snail traveling across a wet stone. When the tide rises again, water covers the stone and the pools join the sea.

2. *Small Safe Places* Waves can push and pull creatures living near the shore. A shore crab may slip into a **crevice** between two rocks. Only its claws show through the thin opening. There, the crab is less likely to be swept away. Sea anemones stay attached to rocks with a sticky base. At low tide, some pull in their tentacles until the water returns.

3. *Hidden Until High Tide* A small fish may be **camouflaged** among brown stones. Its speckled skin makes it hard for a hunting bird to spot. When water returns, the fish can swim away. Soon the rocks are **submerged**, and even their highest edges disappear beneath the waves. The tide pool looks different now, but its creatures are still nearby, moving through the water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does exposed mean in the first paragraph? Which words helped you decide?

2. What is a crevice? Use a detail about the crab to explain your answer.

3. What does camouflaged mean? How do the subheading and a sentence clue help?

4. What does submerged mean? Name the clue that helps you know.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about a place other than a tide pool. Use one bold word from the passage in your new setting, and include a clue that helps a reader figure out its meaning.

ANSWER KEY

Tide Pool Clues

GRADE 4 · 4.RC.10

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each bold word in the passage. Underline a clue in a sentence or subheading that helps you figure out what it means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does exposed mean in the first paragraph? Which words helped you decide?	**Exposed means no longer covered. The rocks were underwater, but at low tide they are open to the air.**
2	What is a crevice? Use a detail about the crab to explain your answer.	**A crevice is a narrow opening between rocks. Only the crab's claws show through it.**
3	What does camouflaged mean? How do the subheading and a sentence clue help?	**Camouflaged means hard to see because something blends in. The subheading says "Hidden," and the fish's speckled skin makes it hard for a bird to spot.**
4	What does submerged mean? Name the clue that helps you know.	**Submerged means covered by water. The rocks' highest edges disappear beneath the waves.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The stepping stones in our garden were submerged after the storm. Water covered every stone, so we could not use the path.

Accept meanings supported by relevant clues, even if students use different wording. For Part 3, look for a new setting and a clue that makes the chosen word's meaning clear.