The Rising Creek

How story details shape what happens next

4.RC.3 "Describe a character, setting, or event in a story or play, drawing on specific details in the text, and how that impacts the plot."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that put the books in danger, then circle Mira's plan and a detail that shows how it changes the swap.

The Book Swap

1 Every Saturday, Mira and her grandfather carried a basket of books to the little library beside the creek. On the morning of the town book swap, rain drummed on the roof. Mira saw muddy water climbing the steps. Inside, her grandfather stacked books on the highest shelves, but the swap tables still held dozens of stories.

2 Mira wanted to save every book, but she knew the creek could rise quickly. She spotted the empty red wagon under the porch. "We can take the books to the school gym," she said. Grandfather shook his head at the heavy tables. "Just the books," Mira answered, pulling the wagon close to the door. Together, they filled it and hurried uphill.

3 At the gym, the first visitors arrived with books to trade. Mira explained why the swap had moved and asked them to help unload. Soon the wagon made three more trips, and a long line of books covered the gym floor. By noon, muddy water had slipped into the library, but every book from the tables was dry. Grandfather handed Mira the first book to swap.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does Mira's plan change what happens to the books? Use a detail from the story.

2. How does the library's location beside the creek affect the story? Use two details.

3. Describe one thing Grandfather does when the books are in danger. How does it help?

4. How do the visitors affect the book swap after it moves? Use a detail from the story.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine the red wagon has a broken wheel when Mira finds it. Write four sentences describing what Mira does instead and how this new event changes the book swap. Include two details from the story.

ANSWER KEY

The Rising Creek

GRADE 4 · 4.RC.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that put the books in danger, then circle Mira's plan and a detail that shows how it changes the swap. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does Mira's plan change what happens to the books? Use a detail from the story.	**Mira plans to take the books to the school gym in a wagon. The books from the swap tables stay dry when water enters the library.**
2	How does the library's location beside the creek affect the story? Use two details.	**Rain makes the creek rise beside the library. Water climbs the steps and later enters the building, so the swap must move.**
3	Describe one thing Grandfather does when the books are in danger. How does it help?	**Grandfather stacks books on the highest shelves, moving them away from the rising water. He also helps Mira take the swap books uphill.**
4	How do the visitors affect the book swap after it moves? Use a detail from the story.	**The visitors help unload the books at the gym, so the books can be set out for trading.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When Mira finds the red wagon, its wheel is broken. Since muddy creek water is climbing the library steps, she asks Grandfather to help carry the books uphill to the school gym. Visitors help carry the last stacks. The swap starts late, but the books from the tables stay dry.

Accept answers that connect a specific story detail to its effect on what happens. For Part 3, accept other plausible plans if the response has four sentences, uses two story details, and explains a change to the swap.