A Case for Trees

Trace how facts from three guides support one idea.

4.W.2.c "Provide facts, specific details, and examples from various sources and texts to support ideas and extend explanations."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one fact from each guide, and circle the words that name each guide so you can see where the writer found support.

Why Plant Street Trees?

1. A tree can do more than make a street look green. In summer, its wide crown casts shade on the sidewalk. A tree guide explains that leaves block some sunlight before it reaches the ground. That fact helps explain why the patch beneath a leafy tree can feel cooler than bare pavement nearby. For people waiting at a bus stop, that patch of shade can make a hot walk more comfortable.

2. Trees can also help when rain falls hard. A town rainwater guide explains that some rain lands on leaves instead of striking the ground at once. The guide also says that water can soak into soil around trees. These details show how a tree can slow some water on its way to a storm drain. It cannot stop a flood, but it can help keep a sidewalk from getting as wet.

3. A bird field guide adds another reason to plant trees: some birds build nests in branches. A nest gives eggs and young birds a place to rest above the ground. This example does not mean every tree will hold a nest. It shows that planting trees can create possible homes for wildlife. Together, the tree guide, rainwater guide, and bird guide give different kinds of support for adding trees to a neighborhood.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which fact from the tree guide helps explain why a spot under a tree can feel cooler?

2. Use two details from the rainwater guide to explain how a tree can slow rainwater.

3. What example from the bird field guide supports the idea that trees can provide homes for wildlife?

4. Why does the writer say that not every tree will hold a nest? How does that detail make the explanation more accurate?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a spot near your school where a new tree might help. In four or five sentences, describe the spot and explain two ways a tree might help there, using facts from two different guides in the passage.

ANSWER KEY # A Case for Trees

GRADE 4 · 4.W.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one fact from each guide, and circle the words that name each guide so you can see where the writer found support. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which fact from the tree guide helps explain why a spot under a tree can feel cooler?	**Leaves block some sunlight before it reaches the ground.**
2	Use two details from the rainwater guide to explain how a tree can slow rainwater.	**Some rain lands on leaves instead of hitting the ground at once, and water can soak into soil around trees.**
3	What example from the bird field guide supports the idea that trees can provide homes for wildlife?	**Some birds build nests in tree branches, giving eggs and young birds a place above the ground.**
4	Why does the writer say that not every tree will hold a nest? How does that detail make the explanation more accurate?	**It shows that a tree might provide a home for birds, but a nest is not guaranteed.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A new tree could grow beside the sunny bench near our school gate. The tree guide says leaves block some sunlight, so the bench could have more shade on hot days. The town rainwater guide says some rain lands on leaves before reaching the ground, so the tree could slow rainwater near the gate. That waiting spot could be more comfortable on hot days and less wet when it rains.

Accept accurate facts from the named guides and explanations that connect each fact to an idea. For the open task, look for a specific location and two supported benefits drawn from different guides.