Shade Source Notes

Use three sources to investigate a playground question

6.W.5.b "Gather relevant information from multiple sources and annotate sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each source name, underline one detail from each source that helps answer the playground question, and write a short note beside each underline explaining why the detail matters.

Where Does the Playground Need Shade?

1. Our class is investigating a question: How can we make the playground safer and more comfortable during hot afternoons? We start with a student temperature log from September 5. At 2 p.m., students used an infrared thermometer to measure the blacktop beside the basketball court. A spot in direct sun read 112°F, while a spot under a tree read 86°F. The readings show a difference in surface temperature, not air temperature. Because the class measured on only one afternoon, the log cannot show what happens every day.

2. Next, we read a shade guide from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The guide explains that shade from trees or built covers can reduce people's exposure to direct sunlight. Trees also cool nearby air by releasing water vapor from their leaves. However, a young tree will not give much shade right away. This guide offers general facts, not measurements from our playground. We note that it can help us compare possible solutions, but it cannot tell us exactly where students need shade most.

3. Finally, we interview Ms. Rivera, the school's groundskeeper. She says the basketball court is busy after lunch, while the benches near the fence already sit under large trees. She also says the school can water a new tree near the court, but any built cover would need approval from the district before installation. Her answers add local details that the national guide cannot provide. Still, her observations are not a count of how many students use each area. We could check them by recording where students gather for several afternoons.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which source would you mark to show that one part of the court's blacktop was cooler on September 5? Give the two readings.

2. The shade guide says trees cool nearby air. Why should you not mark the temperature log as proof of that exact claim?

3. Which detail from Ms. Rivera's interview helps you judge whether a new tree near the court could be cared for? Explain why it matters.

4. Someone claims a built cover could be installed right away. What note would you add from Ms. Rivera's interview?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence plan for a follow-up investigation. Name two different sources from the passage and note one useful detail from each, then ask a new question those details raise and name a new source you would gather to answer it.

ANSWER KEY

Shade Source Notes

GRADE 6 · 6.W.5.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each source name, underline one detail from each source that helps answer the playground question, and write a short note beside each underline explaining why the detail matters. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which source would you mark to show that one part of the court's blacktop was cooler on September 5? Give the two readings.	**The student temperature log: 112°F in direct sun and 86°F under a tree.**
2	The shade guide says trees cool nearby air. Why should you not mark the temperature log as proof of that exact claim?	**The log measured blacktop surface temperatures, not air temperatures.**
3	Which detail from Ms. Rivera's interview helps you judge whether a new tree near the court could be cared for? Explain why it matters.	**She says the school can water a new tree near the court. A new tree needs water to grow.**
4	Someone claims a built cover could be installed right away. What note would you add from Ms. Rivera's interview?	**A built cover needs district approval before installation, so it may not be installed right away.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The student temperature log shows that the sunny court blacktop read 112°F at 2 p.m. Ms. Rivera's interview says the court is busy after lunch. Is the court hottest when the most students use it? I would gather new thermometer readings and student counts at the court after lunch on several days.

Accept accurate paraphrases and different relevant details from the named sources. For the open task, the new question and proposed source should follow from the student's two source notes.