Words That Welcome

Notice how an informative passage speaks to families.

7.W.2.e "Establish and maintain a style appropriate for the purpose and audience."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle one clear, family-friendly explanation in each paragraph, and underline the polite request that keeps the passage's helpful tone.

The Garden After Rain

1 Families who walk past the school entrance after a storm may notice a shallow planted area beside the sidewalk. This is a rain garden, a place built to collect water that runs off hard surfaces. Instead of rushing straight into a storm drain, some rainwater flows into the garden and slowly sinks into the soil. The garden is not a pond; it usually dries between storms. That matters near a busy entrance, where puddles can make the walkway harder to use.

2 The plants do more than add color. Deep roots help loosen the soil, leaving spaces where water can move downward. Leaves and stems also slow water as it enters the garden. Our school chose plants suited to local rainfall, so they can handle both wet days and dry stretches. These plants still need care, especially while their roots are growing. A layer of mulch helps hold moisture and protects bare soil from washing away. Together, the plants, soil, and mulch help the garden manage a downpour.

3 When your family visits the school, you can observe how the garden changes after rain. Water may collect there for a short time, then disappear as it soaks into the ground. Please use the sidewalk instead of stepping into the planted area; packed soil leaves less room for water to sink in. You may also notice fallen leaves or a few weeds. School volunteers remove weeds and check that water can enter the garden. These small tasks help the space keep working through the seasons.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who is the passage written for? Quote words that show how the writer addresses that audience.

2. How does the first paragraph help families understand what a rain garden is? Quote the explanation.

3. Quote a phrase from paragraph 2 that makes the science easy to picture. Explain what it helps readers understand.

4. How does the request in paragraph 3 fit the passage's helpful, informative style? Include the reason the writer gives.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 5- to 7-sentence paragraph for families explaining how students can reduce paper waste at school. Use clear, informative language, explain one useful detail, and include one polite request with a reason.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Welcome

GRADE 7 · 7.W.2.e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle one clear, family-friendly explanation in each paragraph, and underline the polite request that keeps the passage's helpful tone. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the passage written for? Quote words that show how the writer addresses that audience.	**It is written for families. The writer says, "When your family visits the school."**
2	How does the first paragraph help families understand what a rain garden is? Quote the explanation.	**It calls a rain garden "a place built to collect water that runs off hard surfaces."**
3	Quote a phrase from paragraph 2 that makes the science easy to picture. Explain what it helps readers understand.	**"Leaving spaces where water can move downward" helps readers understand how roots help water sink into the soil.**
4	How does the request in paragraph 3 fit the passage's helpful, informative style? Include the reason the writer gives.	**The writer says "Please" and explains that stepping into the garden packs the soil, leaving less room for water to sink in.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Families can help students use less paper during a school week. Before printing a draft at home, students can reread it on a screen and fix mistakes there. This saves sheets that might otherwise hold only a few changes. At school, students can use both sides of a page when the teacher allows it. Please keep a small stack of clean, one-sided scrap paper for practice notes, since the blank sides are still useful. These choices reduce waste without making schoolwork harder to read.

For the marking job, accept explanations that make the garden's features or care understandable to families. For the writing task, look for a consistent, family-appropriate informative style and a polite request supported by a reason.