A Useful Puddle

Read how a writer introduces a topic.

C.2.2.b "Introduce the topic."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that first names what this writing is about. Circle the words in paragraph 1 that tell what the rest will explain.

A Stop for Birds

1 A puddle is a useful stop for birds. After rain, a sparrow may land beside a shallow puddle. It looks around before it moves closer. That little pool of water can help the bird in two ways.

2 First, the sparrow can take a drink. It dips its beak into the water and lifts its head. A bird needs water each day, just as we do. A puddle gives it a place to find some.

3 A sparrow may also bathe in the puddle. It fluffs its feathers and splashes water over them. Then it shakes and smooths its feathers with its beak. Soon the bird flies away, and another bird may visit.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What topic does the first sentence introduce?

2. Which words in paragraph 1 tell you what the rest will explain?

3. How does paragraph 1 get you ready to read paragraphs 2 and 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a place you know. Write two opening sentences for a piece about it. Name the place in the first sentence, then tell what you will explain about it in the second.

ANSWER KEY

A Useful Puddle

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that first names what this writing is about. Circle the words in paragraph 1 that tell what the rest will explain. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What topic does the first sentence introduce?	**How a puddle is useful to birds.**
2	Which words in paragraph 1 tell you what the rest will explain?	**"Help the bird in two ways."**
3	How does paragraph 1 get you ready to read paragraphs 2 and 3?	**It introduces puddles as useful to birds and says the writing will explain two ways they help.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The library is a place in my town. I will explain how people find books to read there.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence underlined and "help the bird in two ways" circled. For Part 3, accept any two sentences that name a place and tell what the piece will explain about it.