Seeds on the Move

Read how word choices explain a dandelion seed's journey.

RI.2.4 "Determine the meaning of general academic words and phrases and how those words and phrases shape meaning in a grade-level text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the three bold words in the passage. Underline nearby words that help you tell what each bold word adds to the explanation.

Where Dandelion Seeds Go

1. On a sunny day, a dandelion looks like a white puffball. That puffball is made of many tiny seeds. Each seed has a bit of fluff on top. When wind blows, the seeds **scatter** in many directions.

2. Some seeds drop close to the plant. Others float far away **instead**. The fluff helps the faraway seeds ride the air. A seed may land beside a path, in a yard, or in a crack in the sidewalk.

3. After a seed lands, it may wait for rain. If it lands in soil and gets water and light, it can begin to grow. **Eventually**, a small plant may grow yellow flowers and make new seeds of its own.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does **scatter** mean here? How does the word help you picture where the seeds go?

2. What does **instead** tell you about some seeds compared with seeds that drop close to the plant?

3. What does **eventually** tell you about when a new plant can make seeds?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Find the words “a small plant may grow yellow flowers” in paragraph 3. Write two sentences: tell what **may** means there, then explain how the meaning would change if the word were **will**.

ANSWER KEY

Seeds on the Move

GRADE 2 · RI.2.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the three bold words in the passage. Underline nearby words that help you tell what each bold word adds to the explanation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does **scatter** mean here? How does the word help you picture where the seeds go?	**Scatter means spread out. It shows the seeds going in many directions.**
2	What does **instead** tell you about some seeds compared with seeds that drop close to the plant?	**Some seeds do something different: they float far away rather than drop close.**
3	What does **eventually** tell you about when a new plant can make seeds?	**It takes time. The plant does not make new seeds right after its seed lands.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

May means the plant could grow yellow flowers, but it is not certain. Will would make it sound certain that the plant grows flowers.

Accept answers that use passage clues to explain each word's meaning and what it adds. For Your Turn, look for the difference between something that could happen and something stated as certain.