A Seed's Journey

Read to find what the author wants to explain.

RI.2.6 "Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain or describe, and how that purpose shapes the content of the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show how wind moves the seeds, and circle one detail that shows where a seed goes, to see how the author explains seed travel.

A Seed Takes Flight

1. Have you seen a dandelion turn into a white puffball? That puffball holds many tiny seeds. Each seed is joined to a tuft of light, white hairs. The hairs help the seed travel through the air.

2. When the seeds are ready, a strong breeze can lift them from the flower head. The hairs catch the moving air. A seed may float away from the plant instead of falling straight down.

3. At last, a seed falls to the ground. If it lands in a good spot, it may grow into a new dandelion. Wind helps dandelions spread their seeds to places beyond the parent plant.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the author mainly want to explain?

2. Why does the author tell you about the white hairs on each seed?

3. How does the last paragraph help explain seed travel?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are writing a text about how to make a paper airplane. Write two sentences: tell what you want to explain, then give two details you would include to help the reader.

A Seed's Journey

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show how wind moves the seeds, and circle one detail that shows where a seed goes, to see how the author explains seed travel. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the author mainly want to explain?	**The author wants to explain how dandelion seeds travel in the wind.**
2	Why does the author tell you about the white hairs on each seed?	**The hairs catch moving air and help the seeds float away.**
3	How does the last paragraph help explain seed travel?	**It tells where a seed lands and shows that wind can carry seeds beyond the parent plant.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I want to explain how to make a paper airplane. I would tell readers to fold a sheet of paper in half and fold down the top corners to make a point.

For the marking job, accept details about the breeze lifting seeds or the hairs catching air, and a circled detail about a seed falling to the ground or reaching a place beyond the parent plant. For Your Turn, accept two accurate steps that fit the stated purpose.