Garden Ground Rules

Find the facts behind three garden choices.

RI.2.8 "Describe how reasons support specific claims the author makes in a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, underline what the author thinks we should do and circle the facts that tell why.

A Garden That Grows

1. Our class should make a path through the garden. Feet on the path will not crush small plants. Feet can also pack down soil around roots. A path gives us a place to walk without harming the garden.

2. We should leave some fallen leaves on the garden beds. Worms pull bits of leaves into the soil. Over time, the leaves break down and add nutrients to the soil. Plants use those nutrients to grow.

3. We should let earthworms stay in the garden soil. As worms move, they make small tunnels. Air and water can move through those tunnels to plant roots. Roots need air and water, so worms help the plants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the facts about feet support the author's claim that the garden needs a path?

2. How does the fact about nutrients support the author's claim about fallen leaves?

3. How do worm tunnels support the author's claim about leaving earthworms in the garden?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new claim about how our class should care for the garden soil. Use one fact from the path paragraph and one fact from the earthworm paragraph to explain why your claim makes sense.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Ground Rules

GRADE 2 · RI.2.8

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline what the author thinks we should do and circle the facts that tell why. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the facts about feet support the author's claim that the garden needs a path?	**A path keeps feet from crushing small plants and packing down soil around their roots.**
2	How does the fact about nutrients support the author's claim about fallen leaves?	**Fallen leaves add nutrients to the soil, and plants use those nutrients to grow.**
3	How do worm tunnels support the author's claim about leaving earthworms in the garden?	**The tunnels let air and water reach plant roots, which need both.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

We should help the garden soil stay loose. Feet can pack down soil, so a path keeps people off the garden beds. Earthworms make tunnels that let air and water reach roots, so we should let them stay.

Accept answers that connect a passage fact to the claim it supports. For Your Turn, look for a new claim and one relevant fact from each named paragraph.