Where Rain Goes

Trace a problem, its cause, and a two-part solution.

RI.3.5 "Identify and describe informational text structures, including comparison, cause/effect and problem/solution structures, and describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text and how they contribute to..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that states the problem and circle the sentence that explains its cause. Write 1 and 2 beside the sentences that name the two parts of the solution.

A Drier Path

1. After a heavy rain, a puddle covered the path beside a school playground. Children had to step into the mud to get around it. The soil along the path had been pressed down by many feet, so rainwater could not sink in quickly. The puddle kept coming back after storms. The school needed a way to help rainwater move off the path.

2. First, the school made a rain garden next to the path. A rain garden is a low spot filled with plants. Water that reaches this garden slowly sinks into the soil. The plants also take in some water through their roots. But the puddle was on the path, so the school still needed to guide the water into the garden.

3. The school also dug a shallow channel from the wet path to the rain garden. The channel guides water away from children's feet. Unlike the garden, it does not hold water or have plants. It moves water to the place where it can soak in. The channel and garden work together: one carries the water, and the other collects it. That is why the path stays drier after a storm.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What causes the puddle to keep coming back? Which sentence in paragraph 1 explains this?

2. How does the last sentence of paragraph 2 lead into paragraph 3?

3. How do the channel and the rain garden help in different ways?

4. How does paragraph 3 help solve the problem introduced in paragraph 1?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a different everyday problem. Write three sentences: explain the problem and its cause, name two ways to solve it, and compare what the two solutions do.

ANSWER KEY

Where Rain Goes

GRADE 3 · RI.3.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that states the problem and circle the sentence that explains its cause. Write 1 and 2 beside the sentences that name the two parts of the solution. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What causes the puddle to keep coming back? Which sentence in paragraph 1 explains this?	**The soil has been pressed down, so water cannot sink in quickly. The third sentence explains the cause.**
2	How does the last sentence of paragraph 2 lead into paragraph 3?	**It says the water still needs to be guided into the garden. Paragraph 3 tells how the channel does that.**
3	How do the channel and the rain garden help in different ways?	**The channel carries water off the path. The garden collects it so it can soak into the soil.**
4	How does paragraph 3 help solve the problem introduced in paragraph 1?	**It explains how a channel moves water from the wet path to the rain garden, leaving the path drier.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When people leave lights on in empty rooms, electricity is used for no reason. A note by the door can remind people to switch lights off, and a timer can turn them off later. Both save electricity, but the note needs a person to act while the timer works on its own.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence as the problem, the third sentence as the cause, and the first sentences of paragraphs 2 and 3 as solution parts 1 and 2. For Your Turn, accept any three-sentence response with a clear cause, two relevant solutions, and a comparison.