Rain Garden Connections

Compare three texts about gardens that catch rain.

RI.3.9 "Explain the relationship between information from two or more texts on the same theme or topic."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline where rain comes from in each text, and circle one way each garden helps people or animals. Use your marks to compare the texts.

Three Rain Gardens

1. Text 1: Beside the School. A rain garden is a low spot with plants that catches rainwater. At Maple School, rain runs off the roof and down a pipe into the garden. Its soil soaks up water that might make puddles near the playground. Purple flowers give bees a place to find food. Students pull fallen leaves away from the pipe so rain can enter.

2. Text 2: Along the Park Path. At Oak Park, rain runs off a paved path into a rain garden. The soil holds some of that water instead of letting it rush toward a storm drain. Butterflies sip nectar from its yellow flowers. Park workers pick up litter that could block the water's way into the garden. After a storm, people can walk the path without stepping around deep puddles.

3. Text 3: Outside the Library. Rain from the sidewalk flows into a rain garden by the library door. The plants and soil take in water, which means fewer puddles where readers enter. In fall, birds eat seeds from the garden's flowers. A librarian puts up a small sign asking visitors not to step on the plants. That helps the garden keep doing its job when the next rain comes.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does rain reach the school garden in Text 1 and the park garden in Text 2?

2. How do Text 1 and Text 3 show that rain gardens help people in similar ways?

3. How do the park and library gardens help animals in different ways?

4. What do the students in Text 1 and the workers in Text 2 do for the same reason?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a new rain garden at a bus stop. Write three sentences using ideas from at least two texts to explain where its water could come from, how it could help riders, and how people could care for it.

ANSWER KEY

Rain Garden Connections

GRADE 3 · RI.3.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline where rain comes from in each text, and circle one way each garden helps people or animals. Use your marks to compare the texts. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does rain reach the school garden in Text 1 and the park garden in Text 2?	**Rain runs off the school roof and down a pipe. At the park, it runs off a paved path.**
2	How do Text 1 and Text 3 show that rain gardens help people in similar ways?	**Both gardens soak up water that could make puddles where people go, near the playground and by the library door.**
3	How do the park and library gardens help animals in different ways?	**Butterflies sip nectar from flowers at the park. Birds eat seeds from flowers at the library.**
4	What do the students in Text 1 and the workers in Text 2 do for the same reason?	**Students clear leaves from the pipe, and workers pick up litter. Both keep the way into the garden clear for water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At this bus stop, rain could run off the sidewalk and into a low garden, as it does by the library. The plants and soil could soak up water so riders have fewer puddles to step around. People could pick up litter near the garden, just as workers do at the park, so water can flow in.

Accept other accurate comparisons supported by the texts. For Your Turn, look for three sentences that apply ideas from at least two texts to the new bus stop setting.