Rainwater Routes

Compare three texts about managing rain at school.

RI.4.9 "Integrate 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 goes in each text. Circle one detail in each text that helps you compare how the three methods work.

Where Does the Rain Go?

1. **Text A: Rain Barrel.** At Maple School, a downspout carries rain from the roof into a covered rain barrel. A screen keeps leaves and bugs out. When the storm ends, students can use a spout near the bottom to fill watering cans for the school garden. The barrel holds only a set amount. Once it is full, extra water flows away through an overflow pipe.

2. **Text B: Rain Garden.** Beside the school path, a shallow rain garden catches water that would otherwise run across the ground. Its plants have deep roots, and the loose soil lets rain soak in. Unlike a regular flower bed, the garden is built in a low spot where water can collect for a short time. The plants take up some water as they grow. The rest moves down through the soil.

3. **Text C: Permeable Pavement.** At the school entrance, workers replace a strip of hard pavement with permeable pavement. This surface has small openings that let rain pass through instead of racing into a storm drain. Under the surface is a layer of stones that holds water while it slowly seeps into the soil below. People can still walk across the entrance. The surface needs cleaning so dirt does not block the openings.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the rain barrel and the rain garden handle water differently after a storm?

2. What happens to rain in both the rain garden and the permeable pavement? What helps it happen in each place?

3. How do the barrel and permeable pavement each help keep rain from rushing into a storm drain?

4. Which two methods involve plants? How does each connect plants and rain in a different way?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a library with a roof, a paved entrance, and a small garden. In four sentences, recommend two methods from different texts, explain how each works, and tell why using both is better than using only one.

Rainwater Routes

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline where rain goes in each text. Circle one detail in each text that helps you compare how the three methods work. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the rain barrel and the rain garden handle water differently after a storm?	**The barrel stores roof water for students to use later. Water in the rain garden soaks into the soil, and its plants take up some of it.**
2	What happens to rain in both the rain garden and the permeable pavement? What helps it happen in each place?	**In both places, rain soaks down into the soil. Loose soil and plant roots help in the garden, while openings and a stone layer help under the pavement.**
3	How do the barrel and permeable pavement each help keep rain from rushing into a storm drain?	**The barrel stores rain from the roof. Permeable pavement lets rain pass through its openings into stones and soil below.**
4	Which two methods involve plants? How does each connect plants and rain in a different way?	**The barrel stores water that students can use on garden plants. In the rain garden, plants take up some rainwater, and their roots help it soak in.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A library could put a rain barrel under a roof downspout to save water for its small garden. It could use permeable pavement at the entrance so rain passes through to the stones and soil below. The barrel handles roof water, while the pavement handles rain falling on the entrance. Using both manages rain in two different places.

Accept other accurate comparisons supported by at least two texts. For Your Turn, the two methods must come from different texts and suit the places the student chooses.