The Story in Stone

Use story clues to explain a character's choices.

RL.3.1 "Ask and answer questions, and make and support logical inferences to construct meaning from the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show Nia's feelings about her stone, then circle one detail that helps you infer why she decides to share it.

Sinker

1. On Friday, Ms. Vale's class set up a tiny museum of things from home. Nia placed a smooth gray stone on her desk. Her grandfather had found it with her at the river last summer. When Omar asked about it, Nia slid the stone behind her notebook. "It's just a rock," she said, though she kept touching the edge of her notebook.

2. Across the room, bright shells and old coins covered the other desks. Nia looked at them, then at her stone. Omar held up a torn bus ticket. "My dad and I rode to the beach with this," he told the class. "We got lost and ate our lunch on a bench." Several children laughed at the story, and Omar smiled.

3. When it was Nia's turn, she pulled out the stone and held it in her palm. "Grandpa and I skipped stones for an hour," she said. "This one never skipped. It sank right away, so we named it Sinker." Omar grinned. After school, Nia wrapped the stone in a clean cloth. She put it on the shelf beside a photo of Grandpa.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why might Nia hide her stone behind her notebook? Use a story clue in your answer.

2. Why might Omar choose a torn bus ticket for the museum? Use a story clue in your answer.

3. How might Omar's turn help Nia decide to share her stone? Use clues from both children's turns.

4. How do Nia's actions show a change in how she feels about sharing her stone? Give a clue from the beginning and one from the end.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a new question about Nia's choice to put the stone beside Grandpa's photo. Then answer your question in two sentences using two different story details.

ANSWER KEY

The Story in Stone

GRADE 3 · RL.3.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show Nia's feelings about her stone, then circle one detail that helps you infer why she decides to share it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why might Nia hide her stone behind her notebook? Use a story clue in your answer.	**She may worry that the stone seems plain compared with the shells and coins. She calls it "just a rock."**
2	Why might Omar choose a torn bus ticket for the museum? Use a story clue in your answer.	**It reminds him of a trip to the beach with his dad, which he tells the class about.**
3	How might Omar's turn help Nia decide to share her stone? Use clues from both children's turns.	**Omar shares a memory tied to an ordinary ticket, and the class enjoys his story. Nia then shares the memory tied to her ordinary stone.**
4	How do Nia's actions show a change in how she feels about sharing her stone? Give a clue from the beginning and one from the end.	**At first, Nia hides the stone behind her notebook. Later, she holds it up and tells the class its story.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Why does Nia put the stone beside Grandpa's photo? She and Grandpa found the stone together at the river. It also reminds her of the hour they spent skipping stones, so she keeps it near his photo.

Accept other reasonable inferences when students support them with details from the passage. For Part 3, look for a new question and a two-sentence answer using two different details.