Garden System Connections

Use labels and arrows to show Earth's systems.

E.3.9.1 "Develop models to communicate the characteristics of the Earth's major systems, including the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere (e.g., digital models, illustrations, flip books, diagrams, charts, tables)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one example of each Earth system in the passage. Number the two connections Maya shows with arrows so you can use them in a model.

Maya Models the Garden

1. After a hard rain, Maya visits the school garden. She wants to make a model that shows more than the flowers. A model can be a simple drawing with labels and arrows. Labels tell what each part is. Arrows can show how parts connect. Maya looks closely at the soil, a puddle, the moving air, and a worm near a plant.

2. Patches of soil and small rocks are parts of the geosphere, Earth's solid ground. The puddle is part of the hydrosphere, which includes water on Earth. Maya feels a breeze. The air around the garden is part of the atmosphere. A worm, a plant, and Maya are living things in the biosphere. In her drawing, Maya gives each system its own label.

3. Maya adds two arrows to make her model tell a story. One arrow goes from the puddle to the soil because water sinks into the ground. Another arrow goes from the soil to the plant because the plant's roots take in water from the soil. She draws the worm beside the plant, not inside the puddle. Now her model shows parts of Earth and how they connect.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Maya wants two geosphere labels in her model. Which two garden things could she label?

2. Maya draws the puddle and the breeze. Which Earth system label belongs with each?

3. Which three things from the passage could Maya draw and label biosphere?

4. Where does each of Maya's two arrows start and end? Tell what each arrow shows.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Draw a model of a place that is not a garden. Label one example of each of the four Earth systems, draw an arrow between two examples, and write one sentence explaining your arrow.

ANSWER KEY

Garden System Connections

GRADE 3 · E.3.9.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one example of each Earth system in the passage. Number the two connections Maya shows with arrows so you can use them in a model. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Maya wants two geosphere labels in her model. Which two garden things could she label?	**Soil and small rocks.**
2	Maya draws the puddle and the breeze. Which Earth system label belongs with each?	**The puddle belongs to the hydrosphere. The breeze belongs to the atmosphere.**
3	Which three things from the passage could Maya draw and label biosphere?	**The worm, the plant, and Maya.**
4	Where does each of Maya's two arrows start and end? Tell what each arrow shows.	**The puddle-to-soil arrow shows water sinking into the ground. The soil-to-plant arrow shows the plant's roots taking in water from the soil.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A city street model has four labels: geosphere, rocky ground; hydrosphere, rainwater; atmosphere, air; biosphere, a tree. An arrow points from the rainwater to the rocky ground. Rainwater flows over the rocky ground.

Accept other accurate examples from the passage in Part 2. For Part 3, check that all four labels match the examples and that the sentence explains the drawn arrow.