

Garden Word Lens

Notice words that make an observation clear and exact.

4L3.a "Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first action word in the first sentence of each paragraph. These three words tell exactly how a living thing acted.

Maya's Garden Notes

- ① At 7:15, Maya crouched beside the school garden's milkweed patch. A monarch butterfly fluttered above the purple flowers, then settled on one open bloom. Maya wrote that its orange-and-black wings opened and closed slowly in the cool morning air. She did not write that the butterfly was "nice." Her notes showed what she actually saw.
- ② Near the fence, a honeybee probed the center of a yellow sunflower for nectar. Its fuzzy body brushed against the flower's pollen-covered parts. Yellow pollen grains clung to the bee's back legs as it lifted off. Maya chose the word probed because it tells that the bee searched carefully with its mouth, not just that it visited.
- ③ Before lunch, a green caterpillar inched along a leaf edge and nibbled three small holes. Maya measured the holes with a ruler and drew them as tiny circles in her notebook. She chose nibbled instead of ate because nibbled tells that the caterpillar took small bites. Precise words help a reader picture the observation without standing beside the garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which phrase tells exactly what the butterfly's wings looked like?

2 Why is probed more precise than visited for the honeybee?

3 Which word is more precise for eating small bites, ate or nibbled? Use the passage to explain.

4 What two underlined words tell exactly how Maya positioned herself and how the caterpillar moved?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences about an animal or insect you have observed or can imagine observing. Use at least two precise action words and one precise describing phrase. Underline the two action words.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first action word in the first sentence of each paragraph. These three words tell exactly how a living thing acted. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which phrase tells exactly what the butterfly's wings looked like?	orange-and-black wings
2	Why is probed more precise than visited for the honeybee?	Probed tells that the bee searched carefully with its mouth. Visited does not explain how it searched.
3	Which word is more precise for eating small bites, ate or nibbled? Use the passage to explain.	Nibbled. It tells that the caterpillar took small bites.
4	What two underlined words tell exactly how Maya positioned herself and how the caterpillar moved?	crouched and inched

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A gray squirrel scrambled up the rough oak trunk. It clutched an acorn in its small front paws.

Accept accurate answers that name the passage words or phrases and explain how they give a clearer picture. For Your Turn, check for two sentences, two underlined precise action words, and a specific describing phrase.