

Wetland Word Detectives

Notice words that name science ideas and exact actions.

4L6 "Acquire and accurately use general academic and content-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being (e.g., quizzed, whined...)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline five words that are about wetlands or conservation. Circle four words that show a precise action, emotion, or state of being.

Caring for Pine Ridge Wetland

- ① At Pine Ridge Wetland, volunteers work to protect wildlife, including frogs, turtles, and herons. A wetland is land that stays wet for all or part of the year. It gives animals food, water, and shelter. When a student asked why the place mattered, Ranger Lee explained that many species depend on its shallow ponds and grassy edges.
- ② One morning, Ranger Lee surveyed the wetland, which means she carefully counted and observed living things there. She spotted three turtle nests near the shore. Then she cautioned the group to step softly and stay on the trail. Mateo whispered that he felt anxious when he saw a plastic bag floating beside the reeds. It could trap a turtle.
- ③ The group collected litter and recorded each item in a notebook. This work supports conservation, the careful protection of natural places and resources. Ranger Lee said that the wetland habitat must remain clean if the animals are to thrive. Mateo no longer sounded anxious. He proudly reported that the group had removed twelve pieces of trash. They also learned that some species are endangered, or at risk of disappearing.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which word tells what Ranger Lee did when she carefully counted and observed living things?

2 Which word shows the exact way Mateo spoke when he saw the plastic bag?

3 Which word names Mateo's state of being when he worried about the plastic bag?

4 Write two content-specific words from the passage that relate to protecting animals and their homes.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write two sentences about protecting a natural place. Use at least two of these topic words: habitat, wildlife, conservation, endangered. Include one precise action or emotion word, such as cautioned, whispered, or proudly.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline five words that are about wetlands or conservation. Circle four words that show a precise action, emotion, or state of being. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which word tells what Ranger Lee did when she carefully counted and observed living things?	surveyed
2	Which word shows the exact way Mateo spoke when he saw the plastic bag?	whispered
3	Which word names Mateo's state of being when he worried about the plastic bag?	anxious
4	Write two content-specific words from the passage that relate to protecting animals and their homes.	Answers may include wetland, wildlife, species, conservation, habitat, or endangered.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the creek habitat, our class practiced conservation by picking up litter to protect wildlife. I proudly reported that an endangered animal could be safer there.

For Question 4, accept any two accurate content-specific words from the passage. In the open response, check for two sentences, at least two listed topic words used correctly, and one precise action or emotion word.