

Garden Claims

Trace each claim to the reasons and evidence that support it.

4R8 "Explain how claims in a text are supported by relevant reasons and evidence. (RI&RL)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three main claims. Circle the reason or evidence that supports each claim, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside the support for the matching claim.

A Garden for Brookside

- ① Last spring, Brookside Elementary turned a strip of lawn into a native-plant garden. Science teacher Ms. Ramos claims that the garden helps local pollinators. Native plants provide nectar and pollen, which are food for many bees and butterflies. Unlike many nonnative flowers, native plants also match the needs of insects that live in the area. Students saw bees visiting the garden during recess.
- ② Ms. Ramos also claims that the garden should be expanded because it gives students a place to study living things. In May, fourth graders used notebooks to record the kinds of insects they observed. They found ladybugs, ants, bees, and a caterpillar. The class compared its notes over several weeks and noticed that different flowers attracted different insects. These observations gave students real examples for their science lessons.
- ③ Some people worried that a larger garden would use too much water. The school's groundskeeper disagreed. He claims that native plants can save water after they are established because they are adapted to the local climate. During a dry June, he watered the garden once each week, while the nearby grass was watered three times each week. His watering record supports his claim.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is Ms. Ramos's first claim? Give one reason or piece of evidence that supports it.

2 What evidence did the fourth graders collect? How does it support Ms. Ramos's claim that the garden should be expanded?

3 What is the groundskeeper's claim? What fact from his watering record supports it?

4 Why is the comparison between watering the garden and watering the grass relevant evidence for the groundskeeper's claim?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences about one change you think the school should make. State a claim, then give two reasons, using one observation or fact as evidence for each reason.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the three main claims. Circle the reason or evidence that supports each claim, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside the support for the matching claim. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is Ms. Ramos's first claim? Give one reason or piece of evidence that supports it.	Ms. Ramos claims the garden helps local pollinators. Native plants provide nectar and pollen for bees and butterflies, or students saw bees visiting the garden.
2	What evidence did the fourth graders collect? How does it support Ms. Ramos's claim that the garden should be expanded?	They recorded ladybugs, ants, bees, and a caterpillar and noticed that different flowers attracted different insects. This supports expansion because the garden gives students living things to observe and study.
3	What is the groundskeeper's claim? What fact from his watering record supports it?	He claims that native plants can save water after they are established. During dry June, the garden was watered once a week, while nearby grass was watered three times a week.
4	Why is the comparison between watering the garden and watering the grass relevant evidence for the groundskeeper's claim?	It shows that the garden needed less watering than the grass. This supports the claim that native plants can save water.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a water bottle filling station near the gym. During last week's PE class, I saw 18 students wait at the single fountain, so another station would save time. I counted 12 empty plastic bottles in the gym trash after practice, so a filling station could help students refill bottles they already carry.

Accept equivalent wording when students correctly connect a claim to relevant reasons or evidence from the passage. For Your Turn, accept reasonable school-change claims with two relevant reasons and a specific observation or fact supporting each reason.