

Garden Story Steps

Notice how a writer builds a clear scene, one event at a time.

4W3 "Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the words that show the order of events, and circle two descriptive details that help you picture the garden.

Maya Plants a Seedling

- ① On Saturday morning, Maya carried her seedling to the school garden. The tomato plant leaned from its paper cup, and damp soil clung to her fingers. First, she chose an empty spot beside the fence. She knelt, dug a hole with a trowel, and, with steady hands, lowered the thin stem into the cool earth.
- ② Next, Maya tipped the cup and slid the plant into the hole. A gust of wind rattled the fence, making the leaves tremble. "Stay still," Maya whispered, cupping one hand around the stem. Then she pressed soil around the roots and poured water from her blue bottle. The water disappeared quickly, leaving a dark circle on the ground.
- ③ Finally, Maya set a wooden label near the plant and stepped back. The garden smelled sharp and green after the watering. Her friend Luis hurried over and pointed at the drooping leaves. "Will it grow tomatoes?" he asked. Maya smiled because she could already picture red fruit hanging near the fence. She promised to return each week and check the soil.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does Maya do first to begin planting the seedling?

2 Which detail helps you imagine what the garden is like after Maya waters the plant?

3 How do Maya's words and actions show that she cares about the seedling?

4 What happens at the end of the narrative? How does it show what Maya plans to do next?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a six-sentence narrative about finding something unexpected on a rainy walk. Use sequence words, include one sensory detail and one line of dialogue, and end by showing what happens.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the words that show the order of events, and circle two descriptive details that help you picture the garden. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Maya do first to begin planting the seedling?	She chooses an empty spot beside the fence.
2	Which detail helps you imagine what the garden is like after Maya waters the plant?	The garden smelled sharp and green after the watering.
3	How do Maya's words and actions show that she cares about the seedling?	She whispers, "Stay still," and cups one hand around the stem to protect it.
4	What happens at the end of the narrative? How does it show what Maya plans to do next?	Maya promises to return each week and check the soil. This shows she plans to keep caring for the plant.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, I splashed along the sidewalk after the rain stopped. Cold drops tapped my hood, and the air smelled like wet grass. Next, I spotted a tiny turtle beside the curb. "You are far from the pond," I said softly. Then Dad gently moved it to the muddy bank. Finally, the turtle paddled into the water, and I walked home smiling.

Accept quoted or accurately paraphrased details from the passage. For the narrative, look for a logical event sequence, descriptive detail, dialogue, and a clear ending.