Worms at Work

Find the main idea and details that support it.

2.2.R.1 "Students will identify the main idea and supporting details of a text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main idea of the whole passage. Circle one detail in paragraph 2 and one detail in paragraph 3 that support it.

Earthworms in the Garden

1. Earthworms help plants grow in more than one way. After rain, you might see one on a garden path. Most of its work happens below the ground. As an earthworm moves through soil, it makes small tunnels.

2. The tunnels leave spaces in the soil. Air and rainwater move through these spaces to reach plant roots. Roots need air and water to grow. A small earthworm can help roots get what they need.

3. Earthworms also help by eating dead leaves. They pull the leaves underground and eat them. Worm waste adds nutrients to the soil. Plants take in these nutrients through their roots. In this way, earthworms help turn old leaves into useful nutrients for plants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main idea of the whole passage?

2. Give two details from paragraph 2 that show how tunnels help roots grow. What reaches the roots, and what do roots need?

3. Which detail in paragraph 3 shows how earthworms help the soil when they eat leaves?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about a place you know. In the first sentence, tell a main idea about the place. In the second, give a detail that supports your idea.

ANSWER KEY

Worms at Work

GRADE 2 · 2.2.R.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main idea of the whole passage. Circle one detail in paragraph 2 and one detail in paragraph 3 that support it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main idea of the whole passage?	**Earthworms help plants grow in more than one way.**
2	Give two details from paragraph 2 that show how tunnels help roots grow. What reaches the roots, and what do roots need?	**Air and rainwater move through spaces in the soil to reach roots. Roots need air and water to grow.**
3	Which detail in paragraph 3 shows how earthworms help the soil when they eat leaves?	**Worm waste adds nutrients to the soil.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our library is a quiet place to read. Readers whisper when they talk inside.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence as the underlined main idea. Circled details may include air and rainwater reaching roots in paragraph 2 and worm waste adding nutrients to soil in paragraph 3.