Rain, Three Ways

Find the clues that make a story, a poem, and a fact text different.

3.2.R.2 "Students will identify elements of various genres in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the words Maya says, underline the final words in one pair of rhyming poem lines, and write 1 and 2 beside two facts in the last paragraph. These marks will help you spot features of three kinds of text.

A Rainy Day

1. Maya wanted to take her paper boat to the park, but rain filled the path with puddles. At the biggest puddle, her boat slipped from her hands. "Oh no!" she cried. The boat floated toward a storm drain. Maya found a long stick and gently pulled the boat back. She tucked it under her coat and hurried home to dry it.

2. Rain taps the roof with tiny feet. It drums a quick and splashy beat. Across the quiet yard, the puddles grow. Small silver rivers start to flow. My boots make circles, round and wide. And brown drops hop up at my side. Then clouds roll on; the rain grows light. One sunbeam makes the sidewalk bright.

3. Rain begins when tiny drops of water in a cloud join and grow heavy. Then the drops fall to the ground. Some rain soaks into the soil, and some collects in puddles. After the rain stops, warmth from the sun can turn puddle water into water vapor. This invisible gas rises into the air. Rain is part of Earth's water cycle.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What problem does Maya face, and how does she solve it? How do these events help make the first paragraph a story?

2. Name two words at the ends of poem lines that rhyme. What does their sound help you notice about this text?

3. Which words in the poem make rain sound like music? How is that different from the last paragraph's way of telling about rain?

4. Which detail in the last paragraph explains what can happen to puddle water? Why does that detail fit nonfiction?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a new topic, such as a lost mitten or a garden snail. Write three sentences in one genre: fiction, poetry, or nonfiction. Then write one sentence naming your genre and pointing to a feature you used.

ANSWER KEY

Rain, Three Ways

GRADE 3 · 3.2.R.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the words Maya says, underline the final words in one pair of rhyming poem lines, and write 1 and 2 beside two facts in the last paragraph. These marks will help you spot features of three kinds of text. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem does Maya face, and how does she solve it? How do these events help make the first paragraph a story?	**Maya's boat floats toward a storm drain. She pulls it back with a stick. The problem and solution are events in a story.**
2	Name two words at the ends of poem lines that rhyme. What does their sound help you notice about this text?	**Feet and beat rhyme. The rhyme is a feature of this poem.**
3	Which words in the poem make rain sound like music? How is that different from the last paragraph's way of telling about rain?	**The poem says rain "drums" a "beat." The last paragraph explains facts about rain instead.**
4	Which detail in the last paragraph explains what can happen to puddle water? Why does that detail fit nonfiction?	**Warmth from the sun can turn puddle water into water vapor. It fits nonfiction because it explains a real process.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A garden snail has a soft body and a hard shell. It moves on one muscular foot. Its shell helps protect its body. This is nonfiction because it gives real facts about an animal.

Accept any rhyming pair from the poem for question 2. For Your Turn, accept a new topic in any of the three genres if the student names the genre and points to a feature present in the writing.