# Scraps to Soil

Notice how an informational text arranges facts.

**3.3.R.7** "Students will describe the structure of an informational text: • problem/solution • description • sequential"

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline two details that describe the bin. Number three actions in the order they happen, then circle the problem and one way the class fixed it.

### Our Garden's Compost Bin

1. A compost bin is a place for old plant scraps as they break down. Ours sits in a shady corner of the school garden. It has small air holes on its sides and a lid on top. Inside are dry leaves, fruit peels, and bits of grass. Tiny living things help turn these scraps into dark compost that can help garden soil.

2. First, our class puts a layer of dry leaves in the bin. Next, we add fruit and vegetable scraps, but no meat or cheese. Then we cover the new scraps with more dry leaves. We stir the mix now and then to let in air. After many weeks, some of the scraps become dark and crumbly. We spread this compost on the garden soil.

3. One week, the bin smelled bad and the scraps looked wet. Too much water and too little air can make a compost pile smell. Our class added more dry leaves to soak up water. We stirred the pile to let in air and put the lid back on. Soon, the smell faded. The bin could keep making compost for our garden.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How is the first paragraph organized? Give two details that show it.

2. How is the second paragraph organized? Give two words that show it.

3. How is the third paragraph organized? Tell what the problem was and how the class fixed it.

4. How does the second paragraph arrange information differently from the third paragraph?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school problem that is not about the garden. Write three sentences that tell the problem, a way to fix it, and what happens after the fix.

**ANSWER KEY** # Scraps to Soil

**GRADE 3 · 3.3.R.7**

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that describe the bin. Number three actions in the order they happen, then circle the problem and one way the class fixed it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | How is the first paragraph organized? Give two details that show it. | **Description. It tells where the bin sits and that it has air holes and a lid.** |
| 2 | How is the second paragraph organized? Give two words that show it. | **Sequential order. The words "First" and "Next" show the order of steps.** |
| 3 | How is the third paragraph organized? Tell what the problem was and how the class fixed it. | **Problem and solution. The wet bin smelled bad, so the class added dry leaves and stirred the pile.** |
| 4 | How does the second paragraph arrange information differently from the third paragraph? | **The second paragraph gives steps in order. The third tells about a problem and its solution.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our classroom pencils kept rolling off the table. We put the pencils in a cup near the paper. Now we can find a pencil when we need one.

Accept other accurate details and sequence words from the passage. For Your Turn, look for three sentences arranged as a problem, a fitting solution, and a result.