Words That Grow

Choose exact words to make writing clear.

3.4.W.1 "Students will use grade-level vocabulary in writing to clearly communicate ideas."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline four words in the passage that clearly describe planting, the soil, new plants, and gathering pods. Use those words to improve the sentences below.

Our Bean Garden

1. On Monday, our class planted bean seeds in a sunny garden bed. We loosened the soil with small trowels and pulled out bits of grass. Then we tucked each seed into a shallow hole and covered it gently. Ms. Lee showed us how to leave space between the seeds. That way, the roots would have room to spread as the plants grew.

2. Each morning, two students checked the garden bed. We touched the soil before watering because seeds need water, but too much can wash soil away. If the ground felt dry, we sprinkled water until it was damp. After a week, tiny bean plants sprouted from the soil. Their first green leaves were small, but the stems stood straight in the sunlight.

3. As the plants grew taller, we watched for flowers. Later, thin green pods hung from the stems. We waited until the pods looked full, then harvested them by snipping each pod from its plant. Back in class, we opened one pod and counted the seeds inside. Our garden notes told the story clearly, from planting day to the day we opened the pods.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. The class put the seeds into holes. Replace put with a more exact word from paragraph 1. Write the new sentence.

2. The soil was a little wet. Replace a little wet with one exact word from paragraph 2. Write the new sentence.

3. Tiny bean plants came out of the soil. Replace came out with one exact word from paragraph 2. Write the new sentence.

4. The class took the full pods from the plants. Replace took with a more exact word from paragraph 3. Write the new sentence.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences about a task you have done, such as preparing a snack or tidying a space. Use at least three exact action or describing words so a reader can picture what you did.

ANSWER KEY

Words That Grow

GRADE 3 · 3.4.W.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline four words in the passage that clearly describe planting, the soil, new plants, and gathering pods. Use those words to improve the sentences below. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	The class put the seeds into holes. Replace put with a more exact word from paragraph 1. Write the new sentence.	**The class tucked the seeds into holes.**
2	The soil was a little wet. Replace a little wet with one exact word from paragraph 2. Write the new sentence.	**The soil was damp.**
3	Tiny bean plants came out of the soil. Replace came out with one exact word from paragraph 2. Write the new sentence.	**Tiny bean plants sprouted from the soil.**
4	The class took the full pods from the plants. Replace took with a more exact word from paragraph 3. Write the new sentence.	**The class harvested the full pods from the plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I scattered my pencils across the desk. I sorted them by color and sharpened the dull ones. I slid each pencil into the correct cup. Then I wiped the desk with a damp cloth.

For the marking job, look for tucked, damp, sprouted, and harvested. For Your Turn, accept four sentences about a task that use at least three specific action or describing words.