The Playground Patch

Compare ideas about a shared space

3.7.R "Students will locate and use information from a variety of alphabetic, aural, visual, spatial, and/or gestural content to compare perspectives about ideas and topics."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what Maya, Leo, and Ms. Kim each want. Circle a reason each person gives so you can compare their ideas.

What Should Go on the Patch?

1. At Oak School, a bare patch sits beside the playground. The class can choose what to put there. At a meeting, Maya says, "Let's plant a tree. On hot days, we could read in its shade." She points to the sunny spot where her class waits after recess. Maya likes to play outside, but she wants a cool place to rest, too.

2. Leo shakes his head. "We use that patch for kickball," he says. "A tree trunk would get in the way when we run between bases." Leo wants to keep the patch open for games. He does like Maya's idea of shade. He suggests a bench under the big tree on the other side of the playground instead.

3. Ms. Kim, the school custodian, listens to both children. She says the patch is also near the gate where younger students walk in each morning. A tree could give shade, but its roots might someday lift the path. She would like a safe path and room for games. The class will share these ideas before it votes on a plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do Maya and Leo disagree about planting a tree on the bare patch?

2. What do Maya and Leo both think would help students, even though they suggest different plans?

3. How is Ms. Kim's concern about a tree different from Leo's concern?

4. How are Leo's and Ms. Kim's ideas about the patch alike? What else matters to Ms. Kim?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Suggest a new use for the bare patch that no one in the passage suggests. In three sentences, tell how two people from the passage might feel about your idea, using one passage detail for each person.

ANSWER KEY

The Playground Patch

GRADE 3 · 3.7.R

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what Maya, Leo, and Ms. Kim each want. Circle a reason each person gives so you can compare their ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Maya and Leo disagree about planting a tree on the bare patch?	**Maya wants a tree there for shade. Leo wants the patch open because a tree would get in the way of kickball.**
2	What do Maya and Leo both think would help students, even though they suggest different plans?	**Both think shade would help. Maya wants to plant a tree on the patch, while Leo suggests a bench under a tree elsewhere.**
3	How is Ms. Kim's concern about a tree different from Leo's concern?	**Ms. Kim worries that roots might lift the path. Leo worries that the trunk would get in the way of kickball.**
4	How are Leo's and Ms. Kim's ideas about the patch alike? What else matters to Ms. Kim?	**Both want room for games. Ms. Kim also wants the path near the gate to stay safe.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would put a small stage on the bare patch for recess shows. Leo might object because he wants the patch open for kickball. Ms. Kim might worry that children watching shows would crowd the gate where younger students walk.

Accept different predictions in Part 3 if the new use is not suggested in the passage and each person's reaction is supported by a passage detail.