Where Rain Goes

Read, mark, and summarize an informational text.

5.2.R.4 "Students will summarize facts and details from an informational text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a sentence or phrase in each paragraph that tells its main idea. Circle two details in each paragraph that help explain that idea.

A Garden for Rain

1. When a hard rain hits a parking lot, water cannot soak through the pavement. It runs toward storm drains, carrying bits of dirt, oil, and litter. In many places, drains lead to streams or lakes. A rain garden offers another path for some of this water. It is a shallow planted area placed where runoff can flow into it instead of rushing straight to a drain.

2. A rain garden is not a pond that stays full. Its low center holds water briefly while loose soil below lets water soak into the ground. Gardeners choose plants that can handle both wet and dry days. Their roots make spaces in the soil, helping water move down. Stones near the entrance can slow the flow and keep fast-moving water from washing soil away.

3. Rain gardens help protect nearby waterways, but they need care to keep working. As runoff moves through a garden, soil traps some dirt, and plants take up some nutrients. Less water reaches a storm drain at once, which can help reduce flooding during smaller storms. After a storm, a well-built garden usually empties within a day or two. People remove litter and clear blocked entrances so water can flow in.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In one sentence, summarize the problem caused by rain falling on pavement.

2. Summarize how the shape and soil of a rain garden change where runoff goes.

3. Summarize how plants and stones help the garden work.

4. Summarize two ways a rain garden helps after water flows into it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 4- to 5-sentence summary of the whole passage using your own words. Include its main idea, key facts from all three paragraphs, and why people maintain rain gardens.

ANSWER KEY

Where Rain Goes

GRADE 5 · 5.2.R.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline a sentence or phrase in each paragraph that tells its main idea. Circle two details in each paragraph that help explain that idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In one sentence, summarize the problem caused by rain falling on pavement.	**Rain runs off pavement and can carry dirt, oil, and litter through storm drains toward streams or lakes.**
2	Summarize how the shape and soil of a rain garden change where runoff goes.	**The shallow center holds runoff briefly, and loose soil lets it soak into the ground instead of rushing to a drain.**
3	Summarize how plants and stones help the garden work.	**Plant roots help water move into the soil, while stones slow the water and keep it from washing soil away.**
4	Summarize two ways a rain garden helps after water flows into it.	**Soil traps some dirt and plants take up some nutrients. The garden also reduces how much water reaches a storm drain at once.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rain gardens are shallow planted areas that help manage rainwater from hard surfaces. When rain runs off pavement, it can carry pollution toward drains and nearby waterways, but a rain garden gives some of that water another route. Its low center holds runoff briefly, and loose soil and plant roots help water soak into the ground while soil catches dirt. People clear litter and blocked entrances so the garden continues to collect runoff.

Accept summaries that accurately combine the main idea with relevant supporting facts rather than listing isolated details. Wording may vary, but the full-passage summary should cover runoff, how the garden works, its benefits, and upkeep.