Shade Source Check

Read for information the council can use and trust.

5.6.R.3 "Students will determine the relevance and reliability of the information gathered."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that could help the council decide about planting trees. Circle two details that make information less useful or less trustworthy.

A Cooler Place to Play?

1. At Juniper School, the student council wants to make the blacktop cooler at recess. Members are deciding whether to plant two shade trees beside it. Before voting, they gather information. On one sunny Tuesday, Maya measures the blacktop at 93°F and the ground beneath an oak across the yard at 78°F. She takes each reading once, at noon.

2. A city tree specialist writes in a guide for schools that young trees need regular watering for their first few years. The guide also says roots need room to grow away from pavement. It lists the specialist's name, the city office, and the year it was updated: 2025. A garden store flyer says, "Our trees make any playground cool right away!"

3. The group also finds a 2014 blog post about a snowy school in another state. Its writer says the school never needed more shade, but does not explain how that was decided. A survey of 40 Juniper students finds that 31 want more shade at recess. The survey shows what students prefer, not how much two new trees would cool the blacktop.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which source would best help the council plan where to plant trees? What makes it trustworthy?

2. Should the council trust the flyer's claim that its trees will cool any playground right away? Explain.

3. If the council wants to know whether Juniper students want more shade, why is the survey more relevant than the blog post?

4. Why would the council need more measurements before using Maya's numbers to predict how much new trees would cool the blacktop?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A neighbor says, "Two new trees will make the blacktop 15 degrees cooler." Write three sentences: decide whether the passage supports that exact claim, use details from two different sources to explain, and name information you would gather from a reliable source to check it.

ANSWER KEY

Shade Source Check

GRADE 5 · 5.6.R.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details that could help the council decide about planting trees. Circle two details that make information less useful or less trustworthy. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which source would best help the council plan where to plant trees? What makes it trustworthy?	**The city tree specialist's guide explains that roots need room away from pavement. It names the specialist and city office and was updated in 2025.**
2	Should the council trust the flyer's claim that its trees will cool any playground right away? Explain.	**No. The garden store is selling trees, and the flyer gives no evidence for its claim.**
3	If the council wants to know whether Juniper students want more shade, why is the survey more relevant than the blog post?	**The survey asks Juniper students about shade at recess. The blog describes a snowy school in another state.**
4	Why would the council need more measurements before using Maya's numbers to predict how much new trees would cool the blacktop?	**Maya measured only once, and she compared blacktop with ground beneath an oak, not shaded blacktop with sunny blacktop.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The passage does not show that new trees will cool the blacktop by 15 degrees, since Maya measured two different surfaces only once. The city tree guide gives advice about planting trees, but it gives no cooling measurements. I would ask the city tree specialist for repeated temperature readings from shaded and sunny blacktop at similar times.

Accept other passage details that support a clear judgment about relevance or reliability. For Part 3, the new information should help check the exact temperature claim and come from a credible source.