Sprouts and Sources

Track where information comes from and how it may be used.

7.6.R.2 "Students will find, record, and organize information from a variety of primary and secondary sources, following ethical and legal guidelines."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each source's first mention and its date, circle each sprout count, and write 1 or 2 beside the sources to show date order.

What Grew in the Garden?

1. At fictional Harbor Middle School, students wanted to know whether a new garden bed was growing well. They gathered records instead of relying on rumors. In a notebook entry dated April 18, student gardener Leila wrote, "I counted eight bean sprouts in the north bed after lunch." She also recorded that two seeds were still buried and that the soil felt damp. Leila observed the bed herself, so her dated entry captures what she saw that day. It does not prove how many sprouts appeared later.

2. On April 20, the school newsletter reported that "about ten" bean sprouts had appeared in the north bed. Reporter Max wrote the article after reading Leila's notebook and talking with a gardener, but he did not count the sprouts himself. His article helps readers see a broader update, while Leila's entry gives an exact count for April 18. The two numbers are not necessarily a disagreement: the article was published two days later and uses an estimate. A careful researcher keeps the dates beside both numbers.

3. When students prepared a poster about the garden, they made a small source list: Leila's notebook entry, April 18, and Max's school newsletter article, April 20. They wrote "eight sprouts on April 18" as a note, not as a fact about every day. They asked Leila before quoting her, placed quotation marks around her exact words, and credited her by name. Before sharing a photo from the newsletter, they asked its photographer, who owned the photo, for permission. Crediting an article alone would not give them the right to reuse the photo.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which source gives a firsthand count for April 18? Record its name, date, and count in one note.

2. Which source reports a count without the writer counting the sprouts himself? Record its author, date, and estimate.

3. Put the two sprout reports in date order. Why should a researcher keep the dates with the counts instead of calling them a contradiction?

4. If you quote Leila and reuse the newsletter photo on a poster, what steps does the passage say to take?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan research for a poster about reducing litter in a neighborhood park. Name one firsthand source and one source that summarizes others' information, say what you would record from each, and explain how you would credit or get permission to use material; do not invent results.

ANSWER KEY

Sprouts and Sources

GRADE 7 · 7.6.R.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each source's first mention and its date, circle each sprout count, and write 1 or 2 beside the sources to show date order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which source gives a firsthand count for April 18? Record its name, date, and count in one note.	**Leila's notebook entry, April 18: eight bean sprouts in the north bed.**
2	Which source reports a count without the writer counting the sprouts himself? Record its author, date, and estimate.	**Max's school newsletter article, April 20: about ten bean sprouts.**
3	Put the two sprout reports in date order. Why should a researcher keep the dates with the counts instead of calling them a contradiction?	**Leila's April 18 notebook entry comes before Max's April 20 article. The article was published later and gives an estimate, so the counts need not conflict.**
4	If you quote Leila and reuse the newsletter photo on a poster, what steps does the passage say to take?	**Ask Leila before quoting her, use quotation marks and credit her, and get permission from the photographer who owns the photo.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would count litter items in the park on one Saturday and record the date, location, and totals in my own observation log. I would also read a city report that summarizes park cleanup records and note its title, author, date, and main finding. On my poster, I would credit the report for any paraphrased information and ask permission before reusing a photo from it.

Accept equivalent notes that keep each count with its source and date. For the open task, accept other plausible firsthand and summary sources if the student identifies what to record and addresses credit or permission.