Desert Town Choices

How people live with and change their surroundings

3.C.2.3.A "Explain that people both adapt to and modify their environment in order to meet their basic needs and wants."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline actions that change what people do to live with the desert heat. Circle actions that change a place to help meet a need or want.

Life in a Desert Town

1. In a desert town, summer afternoons are very hot, and rain is rare. Families need water to drink and food to eat. They also want time to play outside. On hot days, some families walk to the market early in the morning instead of at noon. Children play outdoors after sunset, when the air is cooler. These choices help people live with the heat.

2. People in the town also change the places around them. Neighbors build shade roofs over the market stalls. The roofs block sunlight, so sellers can keep selling food when the sun is high. Some families set barrels under roof gutters to collect rainwater. They use this water on garden plants that grow food. The roofs and barrels change the town to help meet people's needs.

3. One school has a yard with little shade. On very hot days, the teacher moves outdoor games to the cooler morning. Later, families plant trees along the edge of the yard. As the trees grow, their leaves give shade. Students can spend more time playing there. Moving the games changes people's plans; planting trees changes the place where they play.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do some families change their trip to the market because of the heat?

2. How do the shade roofs change the market, and how does that help people get food?

3. How do the rain barrels change the area around homes to help families grow food?

4. At the school, how do the teacher and the families help students play in the heat in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a snowy town. In three sentences, tell how people could change what they do and how they could change a place, and explain how each choice helps meet a need or want.

ANSWER KEY

Desert Town Choices

GRADE 3 · 3.C.2.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline actions that change what people do to live with the desert heat. Circle actions that change a place to help meet a need or want. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do some families change their trip to the market because of the heat?	**They walk to the market early in the morning instead of at noon.**
2	How do the shade roofs change the market, and how does that help people get food?	**The roofs block sunlight over the stalls, so sellers can keep selling food when the sun is high.**
3	How do the rain barrels change the area around homes to help families grow food?	**The barrels collect rainwater from roof gutters. Families use the water on food plants in their gardens.**
4	At the school, how do the teacher and the families help students play in the heat in different ways?	**The teacher moves games to the cooler morning, changing the schedule. The families plant trees, changing the yard to give students shade.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before a snowstorm, a family could shop early so they have food to eat. Neighbors could build a covered bus stop. It would shelter riders from snow while they wait to travel to the grocery store.

Accept other passage-based explanations that correctly connect a change in behavior or a change to a place with a need or want. For Your Turn, look for one of each kind of change and an explanation of how each helps.