Garden Source Hunt

Read two records of one school event.

3.P.2.2.A "Explain the difference between a primary and secondary source of information; gather basic information (i.e., author, date, facts)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each author's name, circle each date, and write P or S beside each source to show whether it is primary or secondary.

The School Garden

1. People learn about past events from different kinds of sources. A primary source comes from someone who saw or took part in an event. A secondary source is made later by someone who learned about the event from other sources. For example, a sailor's log written during a storm is primary. A book about that storm, written years later, is secondary.

2. Here is a page from a school notebook dated May 12, 2019. Its author is Maya Chen, a student who helped plant a small garden at Oak School. Maya wrote: "Today our class planted six sunflower seeds beside the fence. I used a spoon to dig one hole. We watered the soil before going inside." Maya recorded what she did that day.

3. A school news story dated June 3, 2022, tells about the same garden. Its author, Leo Ortiz, was not at Oak School when the class planted seeds. Leo read Maya's notebook and talked with a teacher before writing his story. He reported that the class planted six sunflower seeds by the fence in 2019. He also wrote that students used the garden to watch plants grow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which source is primary? What detail tells you that?

2. Who wrote the primary source, and what date is on it?

3. Which source is secondary? What detail tells you that?

4. Who wrote the secondary source, what date is on it, and what fact does it report about the planting?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your class held a kite-flying day on April 10, 2025. In two sentences, describe a primary source made that day and a secondary source made later. Give each source an author, a date, and one fact it could tell.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Source Hunt

GRADE 3 · 3.P.2.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each author's name, circle each date, and write P or S beside each source to show whether it is primary or secondary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which source is primary? What detail tells you that?	**Maya Chen's notebook page is primary because Maya helped plant the garden and wrote about what she did that day.**
2	Who wrote the primary source, and what date is on it?	**Maya Chen wrote it. It is dated May 12, 2019.**
3	Which source is secondary? What detail tells you that?	**Leo Ortiz's school news story is secondary because he was not there when the seeds were planted. He learned about it from Maya's notebook and a teacher.**
4	Who wrote the secondary source, what date is on it, and what fact does it report about the planting?	**Leo Ortiz wrote it on June 3, 2022. It reports that the class planted six sunflower seeds by the fence in 2019.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On April 10, 2025, student Nina Park wrote in her diary that she flew three red kites with her class, making it a primary source. On May 2, 2026, reporter Sam Lee wrote an article using Nina's diary to tell about the three red kites, making it a secondary source.

Accept any passage-supported planting fact for question 4. For Your Turn, accept imagined sources if the primary author took part in the event and the secondary author learned about it later.