Books on Wheels

Find what an author wants readers to learn.

3.P.3.2.A "Determine the author's purpose, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe in informational texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that helps you tell what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

The Bookmobile Stops Here

(1) A library building does not reach every reader. In some towns, a bookmobile brings library books to people instead. A bookmobile is a bus or van filled with books. It may stop near a school, a park, or a place where older adults live. People who cannot easily travel to the library can choose books closer to home. The bookmobile helps the library serve more neighbors.

(2) How does a bookmobile visit work? Before a stop, library workers load books onto shelves inside the vehicle. The driver parks at a planned place and time. Visitors step inside or look at books set out nearby. A library worker checks out each chosen book using a library card. At a later stop, readers can return their books. Then someone else can borrow them.

(3) At one stop, the bookmobile parks beside a community center. A sign on the door shows its next visit. Inside, short shelves hold picture books, stories, and books about animals. A child points to a book about frogs while a neighbor looks for a mystery. The shelves are close together, so visitors take turns moving past them. The small space feels busy as people pick books to take home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What question about the bookmobile does the author answer in paragraph 1? Give one detail that helps answer it.

2. What does the author explain in paragraph 2? Name one step that supports your answer.

3. Why does the author include the detail about returning books at a later stop?

4. What does the author want you to picture in paragraph 3? Give one detail that helps you picture it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Pick a community service other than a bookmobile. In two sentences, tell what an author could answer, explain, or describe about it and name one fact or detail the author could include.

ANSWER KEY

Books on Wheels

GRADE 3 · 3.P.3.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that helps you tell what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What question about the bookmobile does the author answer in paragraph 1? Give one detail that helps answer it.	**Why do some towns use bookmobiles? They bring books closer to people who cannot easily travel to a library.**
2	What does the author explain in paragraph 2? Name one step that supports your answer.	**The author explains how a bookmobile visit works. For example, library workers load books before a stop.**
3	Why does the author include the detail about returning books at a later stop?	**It helps explain how readers use the bookmobile: they borrow books, return them later, and make them available to others.**
4	What does the author want you to picture in paragraph 3? Give one detail that helps you picture it.	**The author wants readers to picture a bookmobile stop. Short shelves inside hold different kinds of books.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

An author could explain how a fire station gets ready for emergencies. Firefighters practice drills so they can work together when a call comes in.

Accept different underlined details if each helps show the paragraph's purpose: answering why bookmobiles help, explaining how a visit works, or describing a stop. For Your Turn, accept any community service other than a bookmobile if both sentences identify a possible author purpose and give a related fact or detail.