A Place to Learn

Find the main idea and the facts that support it.

3.P.4.1.A "Compose informative written products, focusing on the facts about a topic, including a main idea with supporting details."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main idea of the whole passage. Circle one fact in each paragraph that supports that idea.

What Happens at a Public Library?

1. A public library helps people in a town learn and find information. Anyone can visit a public library to read while they are there. Many libraries let people borrow books with a library card and return them later. The shelves hold stories, cookbooks, and books about animals and places. A person can choose a book that answers a question or sparks a new interest.

2. Library workers help visitors use these resources. A worker might show a child where to find a book about frogs. Workers also help people search the library's list of books on a computer. If a book is on loan, a visitor may ask to borrow it when it comes back. These services help people find the information they need.

3. Many libraries offer ways to learn together, too. At story time, children listen to a book read aloud and talk about it. Some libraries hold craft activities or reading clubs. Visitors can share ideas and discover books they might not have picked alone. From quiet reading to group events, a public library gives people many ways to learn.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main idea of the whole passage?

2. Name two facts from the first paragraph that support the main idea.

3. How does one fact about library workers support the main idea?

4. Use one fact from the first paragraph and one from the third to explain how a library helps people learn.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four or five sentences about a place in your community other than a library. Begin with a main idea about how the place helps people, then give at least three facts that support it.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main idea of the whole passage. Circle one fact in each paragraph that supports that idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main idea of the whole passage?	**A public library helps people learn and find information.**
2	Name two facts from the first paragraph that support the main idea.	**People can read at the library, and they can borrow books to read later.**
3	How does one fact about library workers support the main idea?	**Workers help visitors search the list of books, which helps them find information.**
4	Use one fact from the first paragraph and one from the third to explain how a library helps people learn.	**People can borrow books to read, and they can talk about books at story time.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A fire station helps people in a town stay safe. Firefighters keep their trucks and gear at the station. They use hoses to put water on fires. Firefighters also train at the station so they are ready for emergencies.

Accept other accurate facts from the passage when they support the stated main idea. For Part 3, look for a clear main idea followed by at least three factual supporting details.