Parks Bring Us Together

Read a model of an organized, evidence-based paragraph.

4.P.4.1.A "Compose informative written products by introducing and developing a topic, supported by evidence (e.g. facts, examples, details) and maintaining an organized structure."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that introduces the main idea about parks. Circle one supporting detail in paragraph 2 and one in paragraph 3, then number the paragraphs to show the order of ideas.

Why Town Parks Matter

1. A public park is a shared place with room for play, rest, and community events. Many town parks are free to enter. A town may set aside land for paths, trees, benches, and open fields. Neighbors can walk, sit, or meet there. Because a park welcomes many people, it can help them feel that they belong in their community.

2. First, parks give people space to move and play. A child can kick a ball on an open field, while an older neighbor takes a short walk on a path. Benches let people stop and rest. These features make the park useful to people of different ages. No one has to own a big yard to enjoy outdoor space.

3. Parks can also bring neighbors together for shared events. Some towns hold free concerts or clean-up days in their parks. At a clean-up, volunteers pick up litter so others can enjoy the grounds. People who did not know one another may work side by side. Parks offer places for both everyday activities and community events, which makes them valuable shared spaces.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What main idea does the first sentence introduce about parks?

2. Which two details in paragraph 2 show that people of different ages can use a park?

3. Why does paragraph 3 begin with the word “also”? Explain how it helps organize the ideas.

4. Choose one detail from paragraph 3 that supports the idea that parks help neighbors connect. Explain how it supports that idea.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write one paragraph explaining how a school garden could help your school community. Begin with a clear topic sentence, support it with two specific, realistic examples, and end with a closing sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Parks Bring Us Together

GRADE 4 · 4.P.4.1.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that introduces the main idea about parks. Circle one supporting detail in paragraph 2 and one in paragraph 3, then number the paragraphs to show the order of ideas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What main idea does the first sentence introduce about parks?	**Parks are shared places for play, rest, and community events.**
2	Which two details in paragraph 2 show that people of different ages can use a park?	**A child can kick a ball on a field, and an older neighbor can walk on a path.**
3	Why does paragraph 3 begin with the word “also”? Explain how it helps organize the ideas.	**“Also” signals another way parks help people. Paragraph 2 describes moving and playing, while paragraph 3 describes shared events.**
4	Choose one detail from paragraph 3 that supports the idea that parks help neighbors connect. Explain how it supports that idea.	**People who did not know one another may work side by side at a clean-up. Working together gives them a chance to connect.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A school garden could help students learn and work together. Students could measure how tall bean plants grow each week and record the changes. Classes could take turns watering the beds, so everyone helps care for the space. These activities would make the garden a useful place for learning and teamwork.

Accept other accurate details from the passage when students explain how those details support an idea. For the paragraph, look for a clear topic sentence, two realistic supporting examples, and a closing sentence.