

Monarch Travel Clues

Compare two texts about monarch migration.

2.RI.3 "Integration of Concepts Use prior (experience) and background (content) knowledge as context for new learning. Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Before reading, tell a partner one thing you know about butterflies. Read to find out how these two texts explain the same trip. Underline an important point in Text A and one in Text B.

A Long Butterfly Trip

Text A: On a fall morning, Maya saw monarch butterflies resting in an oak tree. By noon, they lifted into the air and flew south. Maya's class learned that monarchs travel to warmer places before winter.

Text B: Each autumn, many monarchs fly south from northern parts of North America. Shorter days and cooler weather help start the journey. The butterflies use nectar from flowers as fuel while they travel long distances.

Text B: Monarchs from the eastern United States and Canada fly to mountain forests in central Mexico. They spend winter there. In spring, the butterflies begin moving north, lay eggs along the way, and new monarchs continue the trip.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the most important point of Text A? What is the most important point of Text B?

2 What important information is alike in both texts?

3 What does Text B explain about the trip that Text A does not? Give one example.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Put information from the two texts together. Use the spaces below.

Connect the texts

Tell a partner how Text A and Text B fit together. Write one important point from each. Then explain how weather or nectar helps with the trip.

Connect to what you know

Tell a partner one new fact and how it connects to something you knew. If the topic is new to you, say so. Write the new fact here.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Before reading, tell a partner one thing you know about butterflies. Read to find out how these two texts explain the same trip. Underline an important point in Text A and one in Text B. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the most important point of Text A? What is the most important point of Text B?	Text A tells about Maya seeing monarchs fly south before winter. Text B explains the monarchs' yearly trip, including what starts it, how they get fuel, and where they go.
2	What important information is alike in both texts?	Both tell that monarchs fly south in fall before winter. Fall and autumn name the same season.
3	What does Text B explain about the trip that Text A does not? Give one example.	Text B explains what starts the trip, how nectar fuels it, or the route to Mexico and back north. Text A describes Maya seeing butterflies fly south without explaining these details. Accept one supported example.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Text A tells about Maya seeing monarchs fly south. Text B explains the long yearly trip. Shorter days and cooler weather help start the trip; nectar supplies fuel. I knew butterflies visited flowers, but I learned that nectar helps fuel their travel. Another child may report no earlier knowledge and name a new fact.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

Accept accurate main points in the child's own words. Question 3 must identify information present only in Text B, not merely a different wording of a shared fact. In the first writing stage, expect a point from each text and an accurate cause or fuel relationship. In the second stage, assess the new fact, not the amount of prior knowledge. Maya is a fictional observer in an informational example. Factual references: US Forest Service, Monarch Monitoring in North America (fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/Monarch_Butterfly/documents/Monarch-Monitoring_en.pdf), and Monarch migration, nectar resources and fire regimes (research.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/24947).