

Garden Word Detectives

Explain word meanings and choose words that fit.

3.RV.1 "Vocabulary Development and Word Analysis Develop general academic language and content specific vocabulary by listening to, reading, and discussing a variety of texts relevant to a grade three topic or subject area..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read with a partner. Underline a clue that explains damp and a clue that explains hovered. Circle replanted.

Clues in the School Garden

The soil was damp: a little wet, but not soaked. Eli lifted a tiny young plant called a seedling from a cracked pot. He replanted it in a larger pot so it could keep growing. He had already planted it once before.

In replanted, re- means again, plant is the base word, and -ed shows that the action happened in the past. Replanted means planted again. A prefix goes before a base word; an ending such as -ed goes after it.

A bee hovered above a flower, staying in one spot in the air. Hovered is more precise than moved because it names that kind of movement. Nearby, Jo said, "Wait for your turn to water." Wait means stay until later; weight tells how heavy something is. These words sound alike.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does damp mean? Which words help you know?

- 2 Break replanted into re-, plant, and -ed. Explain what each part tells you.

- 3 Why is hovered more precise than moved for the bee? Is it a louder or stronger action?

- 4 Complete: "Please ___ for your turn." Choose wait or weight and explain.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine another moment in the garden. Tell a partner two or three sentences using damp, replanted, and hovered accurately. Then write them. Add a sentence explaining why hovered gives a clearer picture than moved.

Use your own words

Write clearly. Check that your ideas and word choices make sense.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read with a partner. Underline a clue that explains damp and a clue that explains hovered. Circle replanted. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does damp mean? Which words help you know?	Damp means a little wet. "A little wet" explains it directly; "not soaked" shows it is not completely wet.
2	Break replanted into re-, plant, and -ed. Explain what each part tells you.	Re- means again, plant means put a plant or seed into soil to grow, and -ed marks a past action. Replanted means planted again.
3	Why is hovered more precise than moved for the bee? Is it a louder or stronger action?	Hovered tells that the bee stayed in one spot in the air; moved does not tell the kind of movement. It is more specific, not necessarily louder or stronger.
4	Complete: "Please ___ for your turn." Choose wait or weight and explain.	Wait is correct because it means stay until your turn. Weight means how heavy something is.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After a light rain, the soil was damp. We replanted a seedling that had fallen out of its pot. A bee hovered over a flower. Hovered tells that the bee stayed in one place in the air, while moved does not tell exactly how it moved.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

Read-and-mark clues: "a little wet, but not soaked" and "staying in one spot in the air." Word-part meanings must include both re- (again) and -ed (past); plant is the base. Damp and soaked are different degrees of wetness, while hovered and moved differ in specificity. Do not label every precise word as stronger. Require the student's spoken and written garden ideas to use all three target words with supported meanings, plus an explanation of the precise verb. Accept varied garden scenarios. A bee can hover; no further insect knowledge is required. All context and word-part information needed for the task is printed here.