Garden Plans Matter

See how a model informational text introduces and organizes a topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2a "Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables)..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each heading, underline the sentence that defines a pollinator garden, and label the details in the margins with C for classification, E for cause and effect, or T for table information.

Planning a Pollinator Garden

Pollinator Garden

A pollinator garden is a planned area of plants that helps animals move pollen between flowers. This movement helps plants make seeds and fruits. Bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds and some bats are pollinators. A useful garden provides plants, water and shelter.

Plant Choices

Choose flowers for different pollinators. Bees gather nectar for energy and pollen for their young. Butterflies drink nectar and can land on flat flower clusters. Hummingbirds sip nectar from tubular flowers. Native plants can provide food for local insects. Plant several kinds that bloom in different seasons.

Plan for Safety and Shelter

A shallow water dish with stones gives insects a safer place to land and drink than a deep container. Leave some bare soil for ground-nesting bees. Avoid pesticides where pollinators feed. The table connects three garden features to their purposes.

SIMPLE PLAN

Feature	Helps
Flat flower cluster	Butterflies land while drinking nectar
Tubular flower	Hummingbirds sip nectar
Bare soil patch	Some bees nest

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What definition introduces the topic in the first paragraph, and what purpose does the paragraph give for this kind of garden?

2. How does the second paragraph organize information about pollinators?

3. What cause and effect relationship does the third paragraph explain about a shallow dish with stones?

4. How does the table aid a reader's understanding of the garden plan?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a short informational mini-article about a school feature that helps living things, such as a birdbath, compost bin, or shade tree. Give it a heading, introduce and define the feature, organize details using classification, comparison, or cause and effect, and add a three-row table that aids understanding. Write the full article on separate paper; use the table here to plan or record its supporting information.

FEATURE	HOW IT HELPS

Garden Plans Matter

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each heading, underline the sentence that defines a pollinator garden, and label the details in the margins with C for classification, E for cause and effect, or T for table information. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What definition introduces the topic in the first paragraph, and what purpose does the paragraph give for this kind of garden?	**A pollinator garden is a planned area of plants that helps animals move pollen between flowers. It supports pollinators and helps many plants make seeds and fruits.**
2	How does the second paragraph organize information about pollinators?	**It groups information by pollinator, then explains the food or flower feature each one uses.**
3	What cause and effect relationship does the third paragraph explain about a shallow dish with stones?	**Using a shallow dish with stones makes a water source safer for insects than a deep container.**
4	How does the table aid a reader's understanding of the garden plan?	**It quickly matches each garden feature with the pollinator benefit it provides.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Compost Corner

A compost bin is a container where food scraps and dry leaves break down into material that enriches soil. Fruit peels and vegetable scraps add moisture, while dry leaves create air spaces. When the materials are mixed and kept damp, decomposers break them down. Finished compost can help garden plants grow.

MATERIAL	JOB
Fruit peels	Add moisture
Dry leaves	Create air spaces
Finished compost	Enriches soil

Accept equivalent descriptions of the passage's definition, organization, cause and effect, and table purpose. For the open task, accept varied topics if the response has a clear heading, introduction with a definition, logical organization, and a useful three-row table.