Monarch Routes

Connect a labeled migration-route diagram with a nonfiction passage.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7 "Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

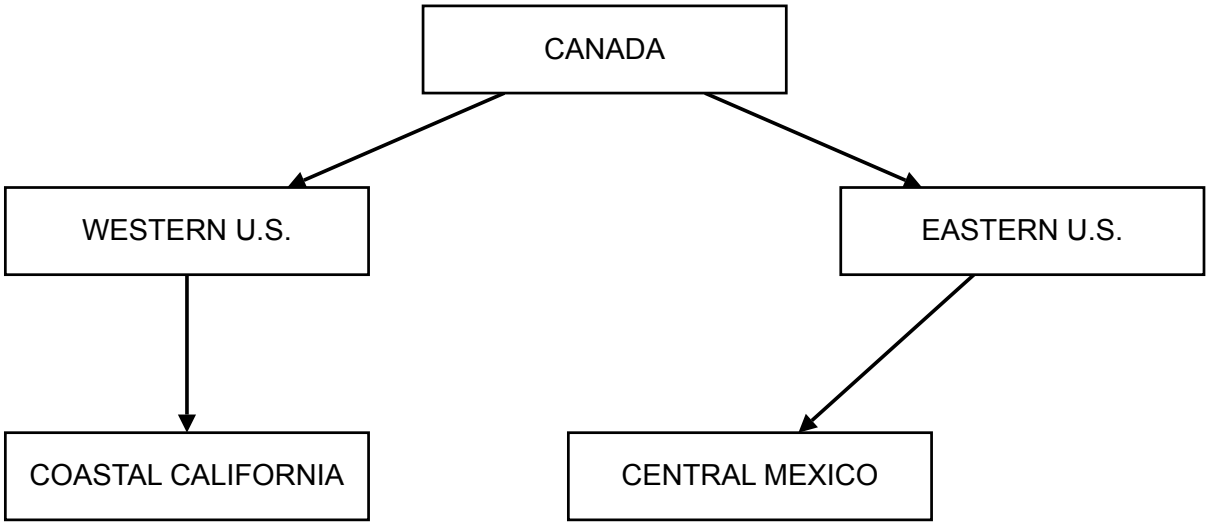
YOUR JOB Underline two written details that explain where monarchs spend winter or why they travel. Circle the two final winter locations on Figure 1, then number the arrows in the order each route travels.

A Butterfly Winter Journey

(1) Each autumn, monarch butterflies leave breeding areas in Canada and the United States to avoid freezing winters. The population east of the Rocky Mountains travels to high-elevation oyamel fir forests in central Mexico. A western population travels mainly to coastal California. Both sites offer milder winter conditions and sheltered trees. Spring northward travel begins a cycle completed over several generations.

(2) Figure 1 is a simplified fall-route diagram, not a map drawn to scale. Arrows connect Canada to western and eastern United States. The western route continues south to coastal California; the eastern route continues southwest to central Mexico. It omits intermediate stops but shows the two populations ending in different winter locations.

FIGURE 1. SIMPLIFIED FALL MIGRATION ROUTES (NOT TO SCALE)



3 The passage explains conditions that the diagram does not show. Milder temperatures help monarchs avoid freezing, and sheltered trees protect them. Coastal California is the western destination; central Mexico is the eastern destination. Using both sources connects each population and route to a specific place with conditions the butterflies need.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What two final winter locations shown in Figure 1 match the eastern and western populations described in paragraph 1?

2. Use Figure 1 and paragraph 1 to explain why traveling to the final locations helps monarchs survive winter.

3. Figure 1 shows one route traveling southwest from the eastern United States. Which written phrase identifies this group, and where does its route end?

4. Figure 1 shows the final locations but not the conditions there. What two details from paragraph 1 explain why both locations can work as winter sites?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Create a two-route migration diagram using arrows, labels, and the places in the passage. Write two one-sentence captions, one for each final location, that state the destination and explain one winter condition that helps monarchs there.

ANSWER KEY # Monarch Routes

GRADE 7 · RH.6-8.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two written details that explain where monarchs spend winter or why they travel. Circle the two final winter locations on Figure 1, then number the arrows in the order each route travels. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two final winter locations shown in Figure 1 match the eastern and western populations described in paragraph 1?	**The eastern population ends in central Mexico, and the western population ends in coastal California.**
2	Use Figure 1 and paragraph 1 to explain why traveling to the final locations helps monarchs survive winter.	**The diagram shows routes ending in central Mexico or coastal California. Paragraph 1 explains that milder conditions at those sites help monarchs avoid freezing northern winters.**
3	Figure 1 shows one route traveling southwest from the eastern United States. Which written phrase identifies this group, and where does its route end?	**The phrase is "east of the Rocky Mountains," and the route ends in central Mexico.**
4	Figure 1 shows the final locations but not the conditions there. What two details from paragraph 1 explain why both locations can work as winter sites?	**Both locations offer milder winter conditions, and monarchs need sheltered trees.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Western route: CANADA → WESTERN U.S. → COASTAL CALIFORNIA Eastern route: CANADA → EASTERN U.S. → CENTRAL MEXICO Coastal California is a final winter location with milder conditions than northern breeding areas. Central Mexico has sheltered oyamel fir forests that provide monarchs with protected winter trees.

For Part 1, circle Coastal California and Central Mexico. On each branch, number Canada-to-U.S. 1 and U.S.-to-winter-site 2; the branches happen in parallel, not in a single four-arrow sequence. Accept answers connecting a route/destination with the passage population or winter conditions. For Part 3, accept clear arrows and labels plus two captions, each combining a destination with a supported winter condition.