Monarch Clue Hunt

Use headings and clue words to trace how information is organized.

ELA.3.R.2.1 "Explain how text features contribute to meaning and identify the text structures of chronology, comparison, and cause/effect in texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each heading. Circle words or phrases that show a connection between ideas, then use your marks to explain how the passage is organized.

Monarch Butterfly Clues

1 From Egg to Adult

First, a female monarch butterfly lays a tiny egg on a milkweed leaf. Next, a caterpillar hatches and eats the leaf. After it grows, the caterpillar forms a chrysalis. About two weeks later, an adult butterfly comes out. The adult dries its wings before it flies away to find nectar and, later, lay eggs.

2 Monarchs and Viceroys

A monarch butterfly and a viceroy butterfly can look alike. Both have orange wings with black lines. However, a monarch has a black border with white dots, while a viceroy has an extra black line across each back wing. This look-alike pattern may help protect the viceroy, because birds often avoid monarchs, which taste bad.

3 Why Milkweed Matters

Monarch caterpillars need milkweed to eat. When fields and gardens have less milkweed, fewer monarch caterpillars can find food. As a result, fewer caterpillars may survive to become adult butterflies. People can help by planting native milkweed in suitable places. More milkweed gives female monarchs places to lay eggs and gives caterpillars leaves to eat.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the headings help you find information in the passage?

2. What text structure is used in “From Egg to Adult”? Give two words or phrases that support your answer.

3. What text structure is used in “Monarchs and Viceroys”? Give one detail that shows this structure.

4. What text structure is used in “Why Milkweed Matters”? Explain the cause and one effect.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences that explain how at least two headings or circled clues from two different paragraphs help a reader understand the passage. Include one detail from each paragraph you use.

ANSWER KEY

Monarch Clue Hunt

GRADE 3 · ELA.3.R.2.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each heading. Circle words or phrases that show a connection between ideas, then use your marks to explain how the passage is organized. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the headings help you find information in the passage?	**Each heading tells the topic of its paragraph, helping readers find information about life stages, butterfly differences, or milkweed.**
2	What text structure is used in "From Egg to Adult"? Give two words or phrases that support your answer.	**Chronology. Answers may include "First," "Next," "After," or "About two weeks later."**
3	What text structure is used in "Monarchs and Viceroys"? Give one detail that shows this structure.	**Comparison. For example, both butterflies have orange wings with black lines, but the viceroy has an extra black line across each back wing.**
4	What text structure is used in "Why Milkweed Matters"? Explain the cause and one effect.	**Cause and effect. Less milkweed causes fewer caterpillars to find food, so fewer may survive to become adult butterflies.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The heading "From Egg to Adult" tells readers that the paragraph explains a monarch's life stages. The words "First" and "Next" help readers follow the order of the changes. In "Why Milkweed Matters," "As a result" connects less milkweed to fewer caterpillars surviving.

Accept chronology as sequence or time order, and comparison as compare and contrast. For the open response, accept accurate explanations that use marked headings or connecting words and details from two different paragraphs.