Turtle Survey Tune-Up

Edit an informational draft for clear written conventions.

6.P.EICC.4.h "Edit the text, ensuring it adheres to the conventions of written language. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle every capitalization, punctuation, spelling, or apostrophe error in the draft. Number the errors as you find them so you can revise each one.

Counting Turtles by the River

1 On a warm spring morning, a team of volunteers met beside the river to count turtles. The group wanted to learn which species used the shoreline, and where they rested. each volunteer carried binoculars, a notebook, and a map. They moved slowly because sudden noise can frighten turtles into the water. “Look near the fallen log” said Mara, the teams youngest observer. A painted turtle lifted its head, its shell shone with yellow lines in the sun.

2 At the first stop, the volunteers saw three turtles basking on a flat rock. Sam recorded the time, the weather, and the turtles positions on the map. He wrote, “10:15 a.m., clear sky, light wind”. This information helps scientists compare sightings from different days. The volunteers didnt touch the animals or move their nests. Instead, they watched from a distance during their survey and used quiet voices, is that a respectful way to study wildlife?

3 By noon, the team had recorded twelve turtle sightings. Later, they entered the results into a shared spreadsheet. Ms. Chen checked the list for duplicate entries, she also made sure each observation included a location. Accurate records can show whether turtles return to the same places over time. The volunteers were proud of there careful work, but they knew one count could not describe the whole river. They planned to visit again next month and compare the new data with todays notes.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Rewrite the quoted sentence in paragraph 1 with correct punctuation and apostrophe use.

2. Rewrite the final sentence of paragraph 2 as two correctly separated sentences.

3. Find three words or phrases in paragraphs 2 and 3 that need apostrophes. Write each one correctly.

4. Rewrite the two sentences in paragraph 3 that contain a comma splice or an incorrect homophone.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence field note about observing an animal outdoors. Include one sentence with a quotation and one sentence with a possessive noun, then edit all capitalization and punctuation.

ANSWER KEY

Turtle Survey Tune-Up

GRADE 6 · 6.P.EICC.4.h

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle every capitalization, punctuation, spelling, or apostrophe error in the draft. Number the errors as you find them so you can revise each one. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Rewrite the quoted sentence in paragraph 1 with correct punctuation and apostrophe use.	**"Look near the fallen log," said Mara, the team's youngest observer.**
2	Rewrite the final sentence of paragraph 2 as two correctly separated sentences.	**Instead, they watched from a distance during their survey and used quiet voices. Is that a respectful way to study wildlife?**
3	Find three words or phrases in paragraphs 2 and 3 that need apostrophes. Write each one correctly.	**turtles' positions; didn't; today's notes**
4	Rewrite the two sentences in paragraph 3 that contain a comma splice or an incorrect homophone.	**Ms. Chen checked the list for duplicate entries. She also made sure each observation included a location. The volunteers were proud of their careful work, but they knew one count could not describe the whole river.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the pond, I watched a heron stand still near the reeds. "It is waiting for a fish," my brother whispered. The bird's quick strike sent ripples across the water.

Accept correct revisions that fix the identified convention errors, including valid ways to separate the comma splice. For the field note, check for exactly three sentences, a correctly punctuated quotation, a possessive noun, and correct capitalization and punctuation.