Garden Detail Hunt

Notice how prepositional phrases add precise details to a model draft.

4.11.D.vi "prepositions and prepositional phrases;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every prepositional phrase in the passage, and circle the preposition in each one. Notice that these phrases can add different kinds of details, such as place, time, reason, purpose, or how something happens.

The Bean Bed

1. On Saturday morning, Maya joined the Garden Club behind the library. She carried a small notebook in her backpack and a trowel in one hand. The club planned a bean seed planting near the fence. Maya looked for weeds between the rows before the planting. The ground was damp from last night's rain, so the soil clung to her shoes.

2. At the planting bed, Mr. Ortiz made shallow holes with a fork. He placed two seeds into each hole and covered them with soil. Maya wrote the date on a wooden sign for the new plants. After lunch, the club will carry water from the rain barrel to the bed. The beans need sunlight during the day and regular water during dry weeks.

3. By early summer, green vines may climb along the fence. The club can measure the plants with a ruler each Friday. During harvest time, students will pick long, firm beans from the vines. Some beans may go into the cafeteria kitchen for a salad. Others can be saved in paper envelopes for next year's garden. Careful notes in Maya's notebook will help the club learn from this season.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which prepositional phrase tells where the Garden Club met?

2. Which prepositional phrase explains why the ground was damp?

3. Which prepositional phrase tells how Mr. Ortiz made the shallow holes?

4. Which prepositional phrase tells the purpose of the wooden sign?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about a classroom job or project. Use one prepositional phrase in each sentence, and make the three phrases show different relationships, such as place, time, purpose, reason, or how. Underline each phrase and circle its preposition. Then check your draft: does each preposition have an object and express the intended relationship? Keep correct phrases or revise them as needed; explain one decision. Write your checking note after the draft.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Detail Hunt

GRADE 4 · TEKS 4.11.D.vi

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every prepositional phrase in the passage, and circle the preposition in each one. Notice that these phrases can add different kinds of details, such as place, time, reason, purpose, or how something happens. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which prepositional phrase tells where the Garden Club met?	**behind the library**
2	Which prepositional phrase explains why the ground was damp?	**from last night's rain**
3	Which prepositional phrase tells how Mr. Ortiz made the shallow holes?	**with a fork**
4	Which prepositional phrase tells the purpose of the wooden sign?	**for the new plants**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

(Under) the table, the supply box waited. (After) art class, I sorted the markers. I saved a clean jar (for) our paintbrushes.

Draft check: Keep under the table because table is the object of under and the phrase correctly tells location. After art class tells time; for our paintbrushes tells purpose.

Accept equivalent wording when the student identifies the correct phrase and preposition. For Your Turn, accept three complete original sentences with correctly marked prepositional phrases that show three different relationships; parentheses in the sample represent the circled preposition. Assess the actual draft check separately from the sentence-count requirement. Accept supported retention of correct usage as well as necessary corrections; do not require an error or a full rewrite. Check the learner's reason against the selected convention.