Monarch Migration

Use key ideas and sequence to restate a text.

6.6.D "paraphrase and summarize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that is needed for a summary, then number the four major migration stages in the passage to show their logical order.

The Monarchs' Long Journey

1. Every autumn, millions of monarch butterflies leave southern Canada and the United States and fly toward central Mexico. Unlike many butterflies, monarchs can travel thousands of miles during this migration. They use air currents to save energy, but they must still find nectar from flowering plants along the way. Scientists track some monarchs by placing tiny stickers on their wings. The tags help researchers learn which routes the butterflies use and how long the trip takes.

2. By late October, many monarchs reach mountain forests in central Mexico. There, they cluster on oyamel fir trees, which provide shelter during cool, wet weather. The butterflies do not eat much while they stay in Mexico, so they depend on fat stored before the trip. When spring brings warmer days, the monarchs begin flying north. No single butterfly completes the entire round trip. The butterflies that leave Mexico lay eggs in the southern United States before they die.

3. The eggs hatch into caterpillars that feed on milkweed, the only plant monarch caterpillars can eat. After changing into adult butterflies, a new generation continues north and lays more eggs. Several generations move north during spring and summer. The generation born in late summer is different. It lives longer than the others and begins the long flight to Mexico in fall. Protecting milkweed and nectar plants gives monarchs places to eat, lay eggs, and rest during their journey.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In your own words, paraphrase the sentence that begins, "Unlike many butterflies, monarchs can travel..."

2. Paraphrase this idea from paragraph 2: "No single butterfly completes the entire round trip."

3. Write a one-sentence summary of paragraph 2.

4. Number these events from 1 to 4 in the order they happen during the yearly cycle: monarchs cluster in Mexican trees; monarchs fly south toward Mexico; caterpillars feed on milkweed; monarchs begin flying north in spring.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 45-60 word summary of the full passage. Use your own words, include the monarchs' migration cycle in order, and leave out extra details such as the tracking stickers.

ANSWER KEY

Monarch Migration

GRADE 6 · TEKS 6.6.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that is needed for a summary, then number the four major migration stages in the passage to show their logical order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In your own words, paraphrase the sentence that begins, "Unlike many butterflies, monarchs can travel..."	**Monarchs are unusual because they can migrate for thousands of miles.**
2	Paraphrase this idea from paragraph 2: "No single butterfly completes the entire round trip."	**No individual monarch completes the whole round trip; different generations share the full migration cycle.**
3	Write a one-sentence summary of paragraph 2.	**Monarchs shelter in Mexican fir forests during winter, then fly north in spring to lay eggs before they die.**
4	Number these events from 1 to 4 in the order they happen during the yearly cycle: monarchs cluster in Mexican trees; monarchs fly south toward Mexico; caterpillars feed on milkweed; monarchs begin flying north in spring.	**1. Monarchs fly south toward Mexico. 2. Monarchs cluster in Mexican trees. 3. Monarchs begin flying north in spring. 4. Caterpillars feed on milkweed.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Each fall, monarch butterflies travel from southern Canada and the United States to Mexico, where they shelter through winter. In spring, they head north and lay eggs. Caterpillars eat milkweed, and several generations continue north. Late-summer monarchs live longer and return to Mexico. Milkweed and nectar plants support the cycle.

Accept paraphrases that keep the original meaning without copying the wording. For the summary, accept 45-60 words that state the migration cycle in logical order and include only important ideas.