Trail of Sources

Analyze how source features guide an informational reader.

8.8.D.ii "features such as footnotes, endnotes, and citations; and"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each parenthetical citation. Circle each raised note number and draw a line to its matching footnote or endnote, then label the note F or E.

Following the Monarch Route

(1) Every spring, millions of monarch butterflies travel north from mountain forests in central Mexico. The insects use rising temperatures and longer days as signals to begin moving. They do not all reach the same destination. Several generations continue the trip, laying eggs on milkweed along the way.[1] Scientists track this movement by tagging butterflies and reporting sightings. Federal researchers reported that the eastern population had declined sharply from earlier decades (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020).

Footnotes

[1] Milkweed is the only plant monarch caterpillars eat.

Following the Monarch Route

2 During winter, eastern monarchs cluster on oyamel fir trees in Mexico's Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. This forest provides a cool, sheltered place where butterflies can conserve energy. Illegal logging and changing weather can damage the habitat, so scientists and local communities monitor the reserve. In one survey, researchers estimated that eastern monarchs occupied about 2.1 hectares of forest during winter 2020 to 2021, a measure used to track population size (World Wildlife Fund Mexico, 2021).[2]

3 Restoring habitat takes work across the monarch's route, which stretches through several countries. Gardeners can choose native plants, and transportation agencies can reduce mowing while milkweed is growing. Such actions cannot solve every threat, but they can add food and shelter to a landscape shaped by farms and cities. Communities also use monitoring reports to decide where restoration may help most.

Endnotes

[2] World Wildlife Fund Mexico. 2021. "Monarch Butterfly Population in Mexico Increases 26 Percent."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What claim is supported by the citation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

2. What extra information does Footnote 1 give the reader?

3. What number links the population-size statement to its endnote, and where does the number appear?

4. Why might a reader use both the parenthetical citation and Endnote 2?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 55 to 70 word mini informational article about a real animal or plant other than monarchs. Include a parenthetical citation for one factual claim, a numbered footnote with a related detail, and a numbered endnote that gives a source organization, title, and year or n.d. Place the matching numbered footnote at the bottom of your article page and the endnote in a separate Endnotes block after the article. Count the article and notes together for the word range; use extra paper if needed.

Trail of Sources

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each parenthetical citation. Circle each raised note number and draw a line to its matching footnote or endnote, then label the note F or E. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What claim is supported by the citation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	**The eastern monarch population had declined sharply from earlier decades.**
2	What extra information does Footnote 1 give the reader?	**It explains that monarch caterpillars eat only milkweed.**
3	What number links the population-size statement to its endnote, and where does the number appear?	**The number is 2, and it appears as a raised number after the parenthetical citation in paragraph 2.**
4	Why might a reader use both the parenthetical citation and Endnote 2?	**The parenthetical citation identifies the source near the claim, while the endnote gives the source's full title and publication information.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Beavers build dams that can slow water and create wetlands, changing habitats for many other species (National Park Service).[1] A dam may also spread floodwater across the ground, allowing more water to soak into soil. These ponds can provide habitat for fish, birds, and amphibians.[2]

Endnotes

[2] National Park Service. "Beavers." n.d.

Accept answers that accurately connect each citation or note to the claim or detail it supports. For the writing task, accept another accurate topic and source format if the response is 55 to 70 words and includes all three required features. Check that raised markers match separate notes: the footnote is at page foot, and the endnote is after the article. Count body and note words together. Help students select an accessible source and check claim accuracy before writing.

Footnotes

[1] A beaver's broad tail helps it swim and balance on land.