Shells on the Move

Read for the main topic and the details that support it.

2.RI.2 "Identify the main topic of a multi-paragraph text and use key details from the paragraphs to support the main topic."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that helps you tell what the whole passage is mostly about.

The Hermit Crab's Shell

1. Hermit crabs have a soft part at the back of their bodies. A hard, empty snail shell keeps that part safe. A crab tucks its body inside the shell, but its legs and eyes can stick out.

2. As a hermit crab grows, its shell can get too small. The crab looks for a larger empty shell. It checks the new shell with its claws. Then it quickly moves its soft body inside.

3. A hermit crab carries its shell as it walks along the sand. If danger comes close, the crab can pull all the way inside. Finding the right shell helps the crab stay safe as it grows.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the main topic of all three paragraphs?

2. Which detail in paragraph 2 shows that a crab may need to change shells? How does it fit the main topic?

3. How do details from paragraphs 1 and 3 show why a shell matters to a hermit crab?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Give the passage a new title. Then write two sentences explaining how one detail from paragraph 2 and one detail from paragraph 3 fit your title.

ANSWER KEY

Shells on the Move

GRADE 2 · 2.RI.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3. Underline one detail in each paragraph that helps you tell what the whole passage is mostly about. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the main topic of all three paragraphs?	**How hermit crabs use shells to stay safe as they grow.**
2	Which detail in paragraph 2 shows that a crab may need to change shells? How does it fit the main topic?	**When its shell gets too small, the crab looks for a larger one. This shows how it finds a shell that fits as it grows.**
3	How do details from paragraphs 1 and 3 show why a shell matters to a hermit crab?	**Paragraph 1 says the shell protects the crab's soft body. Paragraph 3 says the crab can pull inside it when danger comes close.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A Safe Shell for a Growing Crab
When a hermit crab grows, it finds a larger empty shell. It pulls into its shell when danger comes close.

Accept any main topic about how hermit crabs use shells, supported by accurate details from the named paragraphs. For Your Turn, the new title should fit both details.