Creekside Word Check

Reread nearby clues to check tricky words.

3.RF.4.c "Self-monitor reading for correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the story, then underline four words you want to check. Reread each spot and circle a nearby clue that helps the word make sense.

A Walk by the Creek

1. On Saturday, Jo and her grandfather followed a narrow trail through the woods. The dirt path bent toward a creek. Jo hurried ahead, then stopped when she heard a splash. A frog had jumped from a flat rock into the water. Grandfather called, "Slow down near the bank." Jo looked at the edge of the creek and stepped back.

2. A leaf floated past them. Jo tried to catch it, but the current carried it away. "That water is moving faster than it looks," Grandfather said. They stayed on dry ground and watched the leaf spin around a stone. At last, it slipped free and drifted downstream. Jo noticed that the leaf never moved back toward them.

3. On their way home, Jo noticed a tree with rough bark. Tiny insects were crawling over its trunk. She leaned in to look, but she did not pull off any bark. Then she spotted a small bird resting on a branch. It sat so still that Jo almost missed it. "Looking closely helps," she whispered, and they followed the trail home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Suppose you read “trail” as “train.” Reread the first two sentences. Which word is right, and what detail helps you check?

2. Could “bank” mean a place for money here? Reread the end of paragraph 1. What does it mean, and what clue helps you check?

3. Suppose you read “current” as “curtain.” Reread paragraph 2. Which word makes sense, and what clue helps you check?

4. Could “bark” mean a dog’s sound here? Reread paragraph 3. What does it mean, and what clue helps you check?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a word in the story that the questions did not ask about. Write two sentences: tell what you might mistake it for or think it means, then explain how rereading nearby words helps you check it.

ANSWER KEY

Creekside Word Check

GRADE 3 · 3.RF.4.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the story, then underline four words you want to check. Reread each spot and circle a nearby clue that helps the word make sense. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Suppose you read "trail" as "train." Reread the first two sentences. Which word is right, and what detail helps you check?	**Trail is right. The next sentence calls it a dirt path.**
2	Could "bank" mean a place for money here? Reread the end of paragraph 1. What does it mean, and what clue helps you check?	**Bank means the land at the edge of the creek. Jo looks at the creek's edge and steps back.**
3	Suppose you read "current" as "curtain." Reread paragraph 2. Which word makes sense, and what clue helps you check?	**Current makes sense. It carries the leaf away in the moving water.**
4	Could "bark" mean a dog's sound here? Reread paragraph 3. What does it mean, and what clue helps you check?	**Bark means the covering of a tree. The passage says the tree has rough bark and mentions its trunk.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I might think "still" means that something keeps happening. When I reread that the bird sat on a branch and Jo almost missed it, I know "still" means not moving.

Accept other accurate nearby clues that support each answer. For Your Turn, accept any word not covered by the four questions if the student describes a plausible mix-up and uses a passage clue to check it.