Trees at Work

Notice how details support an author's point.

3.RI.8 "Describe how particular sentences and paragraphs in a text support particular points the author makes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the main point in each paragraph, and circle two sentences in that paragraph that help show why it is true.

What Street Trees Do

1. Street trees help keep people cooler on hot days. Their leaves block sunlight from reaching the sidewalk. Someone waiting for a bus can stand in the shade instead of the bright sun. Trees also give off water vapor through their leaves, which can cool the air nearby. On a block with few trees, there may be fewer shady places to rest.

2. Street trees can help when heavy rain falls, too. Rain lands on leaves before it reaches the ground. Some of that water dries on the leaves instead of running down the street. Tree roots also help the soil soak up water. With less water rushing across the sidewalk, a storm drain has less to carry. Trees do not stop floods, but they can slow some rainwater.

3. Street trees can give animals places to live. Birds may build nests among the branches, high above busy sidewalks. Insects feed on leaves or hide in the cracks of bark. Some birds then eat those insects. A tree with flowers can offer nectar to bees. Even one tree can be a busy stop for animals moving through a neighborhood.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the sentence about waiting for a bus support the point in paragraph 1?

2. How does the sentence about water vapor support the point in paragraph 1?

3. Which sentence in paragraph 2 shows that some rain does not run down the street? How does it support the paragraph's point?

4. How does the sentence about tree roots support the point in paragraph 2?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

In paragraph 3, find two different sentences that support its main point. Write the point, then explain how each sentence helps show it is true.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the main point in each paragraph, and circle two sentences in that paragraph that help show why it is true. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the sentence about waiting for a bus support the point in paragraph 1?	**It shows that a tree gives someone shade on a hot day, helping that person stay cooler.**
2	How does the sentence about water vapor support the point in paragraph 1?	**It gives another way trees help keep people cooler: water vapor from their leaves can cool nearby air.**
3	Which sentence in paragraph 2 shows that some rain does not run down the street? How does it support the paragraph's point?	**"Some of that water dries on the leaves instead of running down the street." It shows one way trees can help during heavy rain.**
4	How does the sentence about tree roots support the point in paragraph 2?	**Roots help soil soak up water, so less rainwater may rush across the sidewalk.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Street trees can give animals places to live. Birds may build nests in the branches, so trees give birds a place to raise young. Insects can hide in bark cracks, so trees give them shelter too.

For the marking job, students should underline the first sentence of each paragraph and circle two relevant supporting sentences in each. For Your Turn, accept any two distinct sentences from paragraph 3 with accurate explanations of how they support its point.