Trees at Work

Find two main ideas and the details that support them.

5.RI.2 "Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text using supporting details."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two main ideas about how street trees help a city. Circle one detail that supports each idea, and write 1 or 2 beside each circle to match it to the idea.

What a Street Tree Does

1. On a hot day, a sidewalk can feel like a stove. Street trees can cool a hot city block. Their leaves block some sunlight before it reaches the pavement. Trees also release water vapor through their leaves, which helps cool the air nearby. A person waiting at a bus stop under branches may feel more comfortable than someone standing in the open.

2. Street trees can also slow rainwater during a storm. Drops land on leaves and branches before reaching the ground, so some water evaporates. The trees' roots help soil hold water, too. Where soil surrounds a trunk, rain can soak into the ground instead of rushing across pavement toward a storm drain. That can mean less water collecting on nearby streets.

3. Caring for street trees keeps both benefits going. Young trees need water while their roots grow. Workers must leave enough open soil around each trunk so rain can reach the ground. They also choose trees with room for branches to spread above sidewalks. When a city gives trees space and care, the trees can keep shading people and slowing rainwater for years.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What are two main ideas about the benefits of street trees?

2. Which two details support the idea that street trees cool a city block?

3. Which two details support the idea that street trees slow rainwater?

4. Summarize the passage in three sentences. Include both benefits, a supporting detail for each, and how people help the benefits last.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Your school could replace a paved strip beside a sunny playground with a tree and open soil. Write a three-sentence note to the principal recommending the change. Apply both benefits from the passage, using one specific detail to support each benefit.

Trees at Work

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two main ideas about how street trees help a city. Circle one detail that supports each idea, and write 1 or 2 beside each circle to match it to the idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two main ideas about the benefits of street trees?	**Street trees cool city blocks and slow rainwater during storms.**
2	Which two details support the idea that street trees cool a city block?	**Their leaves block sunlight from reaching pavement and release water vapor that helps cool nearby air.**
3	Which two details support the idea that street trees slow rainwater?	**Leaves and branches catch rain before it reaches the ground, and open soil around a trunk lets rain soak in instead of running across pavement.**
4	Summarize the passage in three sentences. Include both benefits, a supporting detail for each, and how people help the benefits last.	**Street trees cool city spaces because their leaves block sunlight and release water vapor. They also slow rainwater because leaves catch drops and open soil lets water soak in. People help these benefits last by watering young trees and leaving open soil around their trunks.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Dear Principal, please replace the paved strip beside our sunny playground with a tree and open soil. Its leaves could shade the hot pavement, making the play area more comfortable. Rain could soak into the open soil instead of rushing across the remaining pavement.

Accept accurate paraphrases that connect shade or water vapor to cooling and leaves or open soil to slower runoff. Summaries should include both benefits and explain how care helps trees continue to provide them.