Rain Garden Stories

Two ways to explain one schoolyard project

5.RI.5 "Compare and contrast the overall text structure and the presentation of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts (main idea and details, sequence, compare and contrast, cause/effect, and problem/solution)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two cause-and-effect links in Text A, then number four project steps in Text B to see how the texts organize the same topic differently.

A Place for Rain

1. Text A: During a heavy rain, water rushes across a paved schoolyard instead of soaking into the ground. The water can carry dirt into storm drains, and crowded drains may overflow. A rain garden can change that path. Its shallow bed catches some runoff, giving water time to sink into the soil. Plant roots hold soil in place, so less loose dirt washes away.

2. Text B: Our class wanted to build a rain garden beside the schoolyard. First, we watched where water flowed during a storm. We chose a low spot away from the building, where runoff already gathered. Next, with adult help, we dug a wide, shallow basin. We loosened the soil at the bottom so water could enter it more easily.

3. Then we planted flowers and grasses suited to wet and dry days. We spread mulch between them to help keep bare soil from washing away. During the next rain, water moved into the basin instead of racing straight across the yard. Afterward, we checked for puddles that stayed too long and cleared leaves from the edge. Those checks help us care for the garden over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which text is organized mainly around causes and effects? Give one cause-and-effect link from it.

2. Which text mainly follows a sequence? Name two actions in the order that text presents them.

3. Both texts describe what happens to rainwater. How does each text present that information?

4. How does the order of details in Text B help you understand the project, compared with the cause-and-effect details in Text A?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school routine other than managing rainwater. Write one sentence about a cause and its effect, one sentence giving two steps in order, and a third sentence explaining how the two versions present the same routine differently.

ANSWER KEY # Rain Garden Stories

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two cause-and-effect links in Text A, then number four project steps in Text B to see how the texts organize the same topic differently. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which text is organized mainly around causes and effects? Give one cause-and-effect link from it.	**Text A. Its shallow garden bed catches runoff, giving water time to sink into the soil.**
2	Which text mainly follows a sequence? Name two actions in the order that text presents them.	**Text B. The class watched where water flowed, then chose a low spot for the garden.**
3	Both texts describe what happens to rainwater. How does each text present that information?	**Text A explains how a rain garden changes the water's path and its effects. Text B tells what the class saw during the next rain, after building the garden.**
4	How does the order of details in Text B help you understand the project, compared with the cause-and-effect details in Text A?	**Text B shows the steps the class took to build and care for the garden. Text A explains why a rain garden can help a schoolyard during heavy rain.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

When books are returned to the wrong shelf, readers may struggle to find them. First, check a book's shelf label; next, place the book on the matching shelf. The first version explains a result, while the second shows actions in order.

Accept any accurate cause-and-effect links and project steps in the order given. For Your Turn, look for two versions of the same routine and a clear comparison of how they present it.