Rain Garden Connections

Read three texts to build an explanation.

5.RI.9 "Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write, speak or demonstrate knowledge about the subject."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two pairs of related details from different texts. Write 1 beside both details in one pair and 2 beside both details in the other pair to show how the texts connect.

A Rain Garden for Cedar School

1. Text 1, How Rain Gardens Work. After a storm, rain can rush over pavement and carry dirt into storm drains. A rain garden is a shallow planted area that catches some of this runoff. Water sinks into its soil instead of flowing away at once. Plant roots make spaces in the soil that help water soak in. A rain garden does not stop every flood.

2. Text 2, A School's Plan. At Cedar School, a class wants to build a rain garden near a roof downspout, where water pours out during storms. Before digging, the class asks the grounds crew to check for buried pipes. They choose a spot away from the building so water will not collect beside its walls. The crew will watch how quickly water drains after the next storm.

3. Text 3, A Gardener's Notes. At a nearby rain garden, gardener Jo plants local flowers with long roots. The flowers give bees a place to find food, and their roots help water move into the soil. Jo pulls weeds so the flowers have room to grow. After storms, Jo removes leaves that block the path where water enters the garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Use Texts 1 and 2. Why is a spot near the downspout but away from the building a sensible choice?

2. Use Texts 1 and 3. How can Jo's flowers help both rainwater and bees?

3. Use Texts 2 and 3. After a storm, what should the school crew check, and what could they do if leaves block water from entering?

4. A student says, "Once the garden is built, it will stop every flood and need no care." Use details from at least two texts to explain why this is not true.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A new school has two possible rain garden spots: Spot A is beside a wall, and Spot B is away from the wall where runoff from a roof flows. Write four sentences recommending a spot, explaining two benefits of the garden, and naming one care task. Use facts from all three texts.

ANSWER KEY

Rain Garden Connections

GRADE 5 · 5.RI.9

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two pairs of related details from different texts. Write 1 beside both details in one pair and 2 beside both details in the other pair to show how the texts connect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use Texts 1 and 2. Why is a spot near the downspout but away from the building a sensible choice?	**The downspout supplies runoff for the garden to catch, while placing the garden away from the building keeps water from collecting beside its walls.**
2	Use Texts 1 and 3. How can Jo's flowers help both rainwater and bees?	**Their roots help water soak into the soil, and their flowers provide food for bees.**
3	Use Texts 2 and 3. After a storm, what should the school crew check, and what could they do if leaves block water from entering?	**The crew should check how quickly water drains and remove leaves blocking the path where water enters, as Jo does.**
4	A student says, "Once the garden is built, it will stop every flood and need no care." Use details from at least two texts to explain why this is not true.	**Text 1 says a rain garden does not stop every flood. Text 3 shows it needs care because Jo pulls weeds and clears leaves that block water.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Choose Spot B because it is away from the wall and catches runoff from the roof. Water can sink into the soil there instead of flowing away at once. Flowers with long roots can help water soak in and provide food for bees. After storms, students should remove leaves that block the place where water enters.

Accept answers that accurately connect the named texts, even if students use different wording. For the final task, look for four sentences that recommend Spot B and draw on all three texts.