Follow the Evidence

Match each claim to a source readers can check.

6-8.WHST.6.a "Link to and cite sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two facts supported by the EPA pages. Circle the page title or link that lets a reader check each fact, then number each fact and its source with the same number.

A Cooler Place to Wait

1. At dismissal, one student waits beside a wide stretch of pavement while another waits beneath a tree. Their spots may not feel the same. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) explains that roads and buildings absorb and hold more heat than many natural surfaces. This helps create heat islands, places in a city that are warmer than nearby areas. The source for that explanation is the EPA page "Learn About Heat Islands": https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands. Readers can follow the link to check the claim.

2. The EPA also describes a possible way to make outdoor spaces cooler. Trees shade pavement, and vegetation releases water vapor, which can cool the air. Those details come from a different EPA page, "Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands": https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/using-trees-and-vegetation-reduce-heat-islands. If students propose planting trees near the pickup line, this link points readers to evidence for that idea. It does not, however, report a temperature reading from their own school.

3. A writer should place a citation beside the fact it supports. In a note to the principal, students could write, "Pavement can hold heat (EPA, 'Learn About Heat Islands'), so we should add trees that shade the waiting area (EPA, 'Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands')." One student wants to add, "These trees will lower the temperature here by five degrees." That number would need local measurements or another relevant source. Neither linked EPA page reports how many degrees this school's pickup area would cool.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which linked EPA page should you cite for the claim that roads and buildings hold heat? Write its title.

2. Name one fact about vegetation supported by "Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands."

3. In the note to the principal, why does each claim have a different EPA page title beside it?

4. Why can't either linked EPA page support the five-degree claim? What evidence would the writer need?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences recommending a change to a city library's sunny, paved entrance. Use two different facts from the passage, cite each with its matching EPA page title, include at least one full web link, and explain how the facts support your plan.

ANSWER KEY

Follow the Evidence

GRADES 6-8 · 6-8.WHST.6.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two facts supported by the EPA pages. Circle the page title or link that lets a reader check each fact, then number each fact and its source with the same number. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which linked EPA page should you cite for the claim that roads and buildings hold heat? Write its title.	**"Learn About Heat Islands."**
2	Name one fact about vegetation supported by "Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands."	**Trees shade pavement, or vegetation releases water vapor that can cool the air.**
3	In the note to the principal, why does each claim have a different EPA page title beside it?	**Each title points to the page that supports that particular claim.**
4	Why can't either linked EPA page support the five-degree claim? What evidence would the writer need?	**Neither page reports a temperature change for this school's pickup area. The writer would need local measurements or another relevant source.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The library should plant trees beside its paved entrance. Roads and buildings can hold heat (EPA, "Learn About Heat Islands," https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands), while trees shade pavement (EPA, "Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands"). Trees could shade the place where visitors wait, although we would need measurements to predict a temperature change.

Accept either vegetation fact for question 2. For the open task, check that each of the two facts has the matching page title and that at least one full link is included.