

Tomato Plant Details

See how clear details build a focused piece of writing.

2.11.B.ii “developing an idea with specific and relevant details;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details in each paragraph that tell more about growing, supporting, or picking a tomato plant. These details help explain the idea clearly.

Growing Tomatoes

- ① A tomato plant can grow in a sunny spot. It needs soil, water, and room for its roots. Small yellow flowers may open on the plant. Later, green tomatoes begin to form behind some flowers.
- ② As the plant gets taller, a gardener can place a cage around it. The stems do not climb the cage by themselves. The gardener gently ties the stems to the cage so the plant has support.
- ③ Tomatoes need time to ripen. A green tomato may turn red, yellow, orange, or another color, depending on its kind. When a tomato feels firm and has its ripe color, it can be picked.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What idea does the first paragraph develop? Write two details that explain the idea.

2 Which details in paragraph 2 explain how a gardener supports the tomato plant?

3 How do the details in paragraph 3 help a reader know when to pick a tomato?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write 3 sentences about caring for a plant or pet. Start with a clear idea, then add at least two specific details that help explain it.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two details in each paragraph that tell more about growing, supporting, or picking a tomato plant. These details help explain the idea clearly. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What idea does the first paragraph develop? Write two details that explain the idea.	It develops the idea that a tomato plant needs certain things to grow. Details include that it needs a sunny spot, soil, water, room for roots, and it grows flowers and tomatoes.
2	Which details in paragraph 2 explain how a gardener supports the tomato plant?	The gardener places a cage around the plant and gently ties the stems to the cage.
3	How do the details in paragraph 3 help a reader know when to pick a tomato?	They tell that a tomato is ready when it has its ripe color and feels firm.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A rabbit needs a clean home. I put soft bedding in its cage and fill its water bowl each morning. I give it fresh hay so it has food to eat.

Accept answers that identify details from the passage and explain how those details support the paragraph's idea. For the writing task, accept three sentences with a clear main idea and at least two specific, relevant details.