

Find Their Way

Read details to identify a passage's key idea.

2.6.G "evaluate details read to determine key ideas;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details in each paragraph that help explain the most important idea about homing pigeons. Then number the two details that best support the whole passage's key idea, 1 and 2.

Homing Pigeons

- ① Pigeons can find their way home from faraway places. They use the sun, smells, and landmarks, such as rivers or tall buildings. Some pigeons have carried messages when people could not send them by phone.
- ② To train a homing pigeon, a person lets it explore its home loft. Then the bird is taken a short distance away and released. Over time, it can return from places farther away.
- ③ Today, most messages travel by phone or computer. Still, people race homing pigeons because the birds can fly quickly and find their home loft. Their strong sense of direction makes them special.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the key idea of the whole passage? Write one sentence.

2 Which two details best show that homing pigeons can find their way home? Write the details.

3 How does paragraph 2 support the key idea? Explain in one sentence.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a new headline for the passage. Then write two details from the passage that prove your headline.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two details in each paragraph that help explain the most important idea about homing pigeons. Then number the two details that best support the whole passage's key idea, 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the key idea of the whole passage? Write one sentence.	Homing pigeons are skilled at finding their way home, so people train and use them.
2	Which two details best show that homing pigeons can find their way home? Write the details.	They use the sun, smells, and landmarks, and they can return to their home loft after being released far away.
3	How does paragraph 2 support the key idea? Explain in one sentence.	It explains that trained pigeons can return home even when they are released from farther away.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Homing Pigeons Find Home. They use the sun, smells, and landmarks. They can return to their home loft after being released far away.

Accept key ideas that state that homing pigeons can find home and that people train or use them. For the open task, accept a fitting headline and two accurate passage details that support it.