

Monarch Travel Clues

Find the main idea, details, and order in an informational text.

2.9 "Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres. The student recognizes and analyzes genre-specific characteristics, structures..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the main idea. Circle two details that support it, then number First, Next, and In spring to show the order of events.

A Monarch's Long Trip

- ① Monarch butterflies travel long distances each year and need safe places and food. In fall, many fly south to mountain forests in Mexico. They cannot live through cold northern winters, so the forests give them a safer place to rest.
- ② First, monarchs leave northern places in fall. Next, they rest in Mexico during winter. In spring, they fly north. Along the way, they drink flower nectar, which gives them energy for the trip.
- ③ People can help monarchs by planting native milkweed and nectar flowers. Milkweed is the plant monarch caterpillars eat. Nectar flowers feed adult butterflies. These plants can give monarchs food during their long journey.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the central idea of the passage?

2 What happens after monarchs leave northern places in fall?

3 Why do monarchs drink flower nectar along the way?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write two sentences for an informational text about a different animal. State one main idea and include one cause-and-effect detail.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main idea. Circle two details that support it, then number First, Next, and In spring to show the order of events. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the central idea of the passage?	Monarch butterflies travel long distances each year and need safe places and food.
2	What happens after monarchs leave northern places in fall?	They rest in Mexico during winter.
3	Why do monarchs drink flower nectar along the way?	Nectar gives them energy for the trip.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Beavers build dams in streams. Because the dam slows the water, a pond can form behind it.

Accept answers that identify the passage's main idea, correctly describe the order of travel, and explain that nectar provides energy. For the writing task, accept two sentences about an animal with a clear main idea and an accurate stated cause and effect.