

Rooftop Garden Report

Find central ideas, evidence, and text features in an informational article.

3.9 "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 facts that support it, then write 1 by a cause and 2 by its effect in the "Why Water Matters" section.

A Garden Above the Library

- ① At Maple Street Library, a rooftop garden grows lettuce, beans, and flowers. The garden gives neighbors fresh food and gives bees a place to visit. In spring, library workers and families filled raised beds with soil. They planted seeds, then added water every day. By June, green leaves covered the beds, and bright flowers opened.
- ② **WHY WATER MATTERS** Hot, dry days can make the soil lose water quickly. When plants do not get enough water, their leaves may droop and the vegetables may not grow well. To solve this problem, volunteers use a rain barrel. It catches rain from the roof. The saved water is poured into the beds during dry weeks.
- ③ **GARDEN RESULTS** The rooftop garden helps the library community in several ways. A sign beside the beds shares these results: • 18 families took home lettuce last summer. • 6 classes visited to watch bees and worms. • 1 rain barrel held water for dry days. These facts show that the garden provides food, learning, and water-saving help. Library staff will use the list when they plan next year's garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the central idea of the "Garden Results" section? Give two bullet facts that support it.

2 What problem do the volunteers solve, and what solution do they use?

3 What can happen when plants do not get enough water?

4 How do the section headings and bullet list help you understand the article?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a way a school can help its community. Write a heading, one central-idea sentence, and three bullet facts. Add one sentence that explains a cause and effect or a problem and solution.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the main idea. Circle two facts that support it, then write 1 by a cause and 2 by its effect in the “Why Water Matters” section. 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 “Garden Results” section? Give two bullet facts that support it.	The rooftop garden helps the library community. Supporting facts include that 18 families took home lettuce and 6 classes visited to watch bees and worms.
2	What problem do the volunteers solve, and what solution do they use?	Dry days make the soil lose water. The volunteers use a rain barrel to catch roof rain and water the beds.
3	What can happen when plants do not get enough water?	Their leaves may droop, and the vegetables may not grow well.
4	How do the section headings and bullet list help you understand the article?	The headings tell what each section is about, and the bullet list shows important garden facts quickly.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

LESS LUNCH WASTE Central idea: Our school can send less waste to a landfill by sorting lunch items. • A reusable water bottle can be filled many times. • A compost bin can turn food scraps into material that helps soil. • Clean cans and bottles can be recycled in communities that accept them. When students sort waste, fewer recyclable items may be sent to a landfill.

Accept central ideas stated in the student's own words when they match the passage. For the open task, accept accurate facts and a clear heading, central idea, three bullets, and a correct cause-and-effect or problem-and-solution sentence.