

Garden Connection Map

Connect a community project to yourself, other texts, and society.

4.6.E “make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a detail that connects to a community need, circle a detail that connects to a responsibility you have had, and number a detail that reminds you of another text. Use your marks to explain your connections.

The Rain Garden

- ① On a corner beside the school playground, students and neighbors built a rain garden. They dug a shallow area and planted native flowers, grasses, and shrubs. When rain falls on the nearby sidewalk and roof, water flows toward the garden instead of rushing straight into a storm drain. The plant roots help soak up water, and the garden gives insects places to live.
- ② At first, the group had only a few tools and little money. A local hardware store lent shovels, and families brought empty milk jugs to use as watering containers. Students made signs asking people to stay on the path. Each Friday, two classes measured the soil moisture and wrote the results on a chart near the garden.
- ③ After several heavy rains, puddles near the playground did not last as long. The garden also became a quiet place where classes watched bees and butterflies. Neighbors began bringing younger children to look at the plants. The project changed one small corner, but it also gave people a reason to notice how shared spaces can be cared for.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** Describe a responsibility you have at home, school, or on a team that connects to the students' Friday soil checks. Explain one way the two responsibilities are alike.

- 2** In another story, a class cleans litter from a creek after a storm. How is that class's work like the rain-garden project? Use one detail from the passage.

- 3** How does the rain garden connect to a concern that affects the whole community, not only the people who built it? Use two details from the passage.

- 4** A nearby neighborhood wants to care for a shared space. Which two actions from the passage could the neighborhood use, and why could those actions help?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a shared place that could use care, such as a park, library, or hallway. Write three sentences that connect the rain-garden project to one personal experience, one other text, and one way the place matters to society.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a detail that connects to a community need, circle a detail that connects to a responsibility you have had, and number a detail that reminds you of another text. Use your marks to explain your connections. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Describe a responsibility you have at home, school, or on a team that connects to the students' Friday soil checks. Explain one way the two responsibilities are alike.	Answers vary. A correct response names a real responsibility and explains that, like the soil checks, it is done regularly and may involve observing or recording information.
2	In another story, a class cleans litter from a creek after a storm. How is that class's work like the rain-garden project? Use one detail from the passage.	Both groups work to care for a shared outdoor place. The rain-garden group directs rainwater into the garden and works together by planting, making signs, and checking the soil.
3	How does the rain garden connect to a concern that affects the whole community, not only the people who built it? Use two details from the passage.	It helps manage rainwater near a shared playground because water flows toward the garden and puddles do not last as long. It also creates a place for insects and for neighbors and children to visit.
4	A nearby neighborhood wants to care for a shared space. Which two actions from the passage could the neighborhood use, and why could those actions help?	Possible actions include borrowing tools, reusing containers for watering, making signs to protect an area, planting a garden, or keeping a regular observation chart. These actions help people share materials, care for the space, and track its condition.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I helped sort books at our school library, so I know that small jobs can keep a shared place organized. In the story Stone Soup, each villager adds something, which is like families bringing milk jugs for the garden. A cared-for library gives many people a place to learn and use resources.

Accept varied personal and text connections when students explain them clearly and use an accurate passage detail. For society connections, accept answers about shared spaces, rainwater, wildlife, neighborhood visitors, or community cooperation.