

City Sky Hunters

Find a central idea and the details that build it.

4.9.D.i “the central idea with supporting evidence;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the sentence that states the central idea. Underline at least three details that support it, and number the details 1, 2, and 3.

Peregrines Above the City

- ① Peregrine falcons can live successfully in cities when they find places to nest, food to hunt, and safe conditions. High above busy streets, these speedy birds use ledges on skyscrapers and bridges much like the cliffs where they nest in the wild. Cities also offer many pigeons and other birds to hunt. Falcons can survive and raise young in urban places.
- ② Falcons are built for hunting in the air. A peregrine can dive, called a stoop, at more than 200 miles per hour, making it one of the fastest animals on Earth. Its pointed wings help it move quickly, and its sharp talons grasp prey. From a high perch, the falcon watches for a bird flying below before beginning its dive.
- ③ People can help peregrine falcons live safely in cities. Some building owners place nest boxes on tall structures, giving falcons a protected spot to lay eggs. Wildlife workers may put bands on young birds' legs to learn where the birds travel. Protecting nesting areas and reducing harmful chemicals also give these powerful hunters a better chance to thrive.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the central idea of the passage?

2 Which two details from the first paragraph support the idea that cities can meet a falcon's needs?

3 How do the facts about pointed wings and sharp talons support the central idea?

4 What detail from the third paragraph supports the idea that people can help falcons live safely in cities?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly two sentences that summarize the passage. In the first sentence, state the central idea in your own words. In the second sentence, include two supporting details from the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the sentence that states the central idea. Underline at least three details that support it, and number the details 1, 2, and 3. 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?	Peregrine falcons can live successfully in cities when they have nesting places, food, and safe conditions.
2	Which two details from the first paragraph support the idea that cities can meet a falcon's needs?	Falcons use ledges on skyscrapers and bridges for nesting, and cities offer pigeons and other birds to hunt.
3	How do the facts about pointed wings and sharp talons support the central idea?	They show that peregrine falcons have body parts that help them hunt successfully in cities.
4	What detail from the third paragraph supports the idea that people can help falcons live safely in cities?	Building owners can place nest boxes on tall structures to give falcons protected places to lay eggs.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Peregrine falcons can make successful homes in cities because cities meet several of their needs. Tall ledges serve as nesting places, and nest boxes provide protected spots for eggs.

Accept a central idea that explains how peregrine falcons can survive or thrive in cities. Accept supporting details from any paragraph when they clearly connect to nesting, food, hunting abilities, or safety.