Clues for Monarchs

Use several sources to choose details that answer a research question.

5.13.C "identify and gather relevant information from a variety of sources;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every fact that could help answer the team's research question. In the margin, label each underlined fact with its source: webpage, interview, observation, or catalog.

Planning a Monarch Garden

1. Fifth graders at Riverbend School planned a butterfly garden. Their research question was, "What should we add so monarch butterflies can find food and lay eggs?" Maya opened a state wildlife agency webpage. It explained that monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves, while adult monarchs drink nectar from many flowers. She wrote the webpage title and the date in her research notebook.

2. Next, Jordan interviewed Ms. Chen, a park gardener, using questions the class had prepared. Ms. Chen said native plants grow well in the area and may provide nectar at different times of year. She named swamp milkweed, asters, and goldenrod. During the interview, she also described watching a blue jay carry an acorn across the park last autumn.

3. On Saturday, the team visited the community garden and counted butterflies for ten minutes near several plant beds. They saw three monarchs near blooming zinnias and no monarchs near the empty vegetable bed. They recorded the date, weather, and plant names in a chart. A seed catalog page listed zinnias in many colors and showed photos of tall sunflowers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. For the question about caterpillars, which source should the team use, and what fact should it record?

2. The team wants flowers that can provide nectar. Give one relevant detail from the webpage and one relevant detail from Ms. Chen's interview.

3. Would the detail about the blue jay belong in notes that answer the team's research question? Explain.

4. Would the catalog's information about zinnia colors help the team decide how to support monarchs? Explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a school improvement question, such as how to reduce lunch litter or save water. Write the question, name three different sources you would use, and state one kind of information you would gather from each source.

ANSWER KEY

Clues for Monarchs

GRADE 5 · TEKS 5.13.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline every fact that could help answer the team's research question. In the margin, label each underlined fact with its source: webpage, interview, observation, or catalog. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	For the question about caterpillars, which source should the team use, and what fact should it record?	**The state wildlife agency webpage. It says monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves.**
2	The team wants flowers that can provide nectar. Give one relevant detail from the webpage and one relevant detail from Ms. Chen's interview.	**The webpage says adult monarchs drink nectar from many flowers. Ms. Chen said native plants may provide nectar at different times of year and named swamp milkweed, asters, and goldenrod.**
3	Would the detail about the blue jay belong in notes that answer the team's research question? Explain.	**No. The detail is about a blue jay carrying an acorn, not about plants that provide monarch food or places to lay eggs.**
4	Would the catalog's information about zinnia colors help the team decide how to support monarchs? Explain.	**No. Zinnia colors do not tell the team whether a plant provides food for monarchs or a place for them to lay eggs.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Question: How can our school reduce litter at lunch? I would survey students about where litter collects, interview the cafeteria manager about lunch packaging, and conduct a trash count to record the kinds and amounts of litter after lunch.

Accept other clearly relevant details from the webpage, interview, or garden observation when students explain how the detail helps answer the research question. For the open task, accept any reasonable question with three distinct sources and relevant information to gather from each one.