

Shade Evidence Files

Combine details from several sources to form a careful conclusion.

8.12.F “synthesize information from a variety of sources;”

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that come from a source, and write a number beside each different source. Then circle the final conclusion that combines information from several sources, so you can see how the evidence works together.

Why Some Sidewalks Feel Cooler

- ① On a hot July afternoon, students in Riverton investigated why some blocks felt cooler than others. They began with satellite images from a public map, which showed that streets with more tree canopy had darker green areas. Next, they used handheld thermometers to compare shaded sidewalks with nearby sunny sidewalks. The shaded spots were usually cooler, but the measurements changed with cloud cover, pavement type, and the time of day. One set of observations could not explain the whole pattern.
- ② To add another kind of evidence, the students read city planting records. The records listed the year and location of trees planted along several streets, but they did not show whether each tree survived. They also examined a survey completed by residents. Many residents said they chose shady routes for walking, although some mentioned that dense tree cover could block streetlights at night. The survey described people's experiences, while the map and thermometers supplied different kinds of information. Together, these sources raised both benefits and limits.
- ③ Finally, the class compared their findings with a local news article about a proposed tree-planting project. The article quoted a neighborhood group that wanted more shade near a bus stop and a city engineer who warned that young trees need water and care. By connecting the images, measurements, records, survey, and article, students formed a stronger conclusion than any single source offered. Tree canopy can help reduce heat exposure on sidewalks, especially near places people use, but planting plans must include maintenance and safety concerns. They recommended studying survival rates before choosing exact locations.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How do the satellite images and thermometer readings work together to support the idea that trees can make sidewalks cooler?

2 What does the resident survey add to the thermometer evidence, and what limitation does the survey identify?

3 Which two sources explain why planting trees is not enough by itself, and what does each source add?

4 What careful conclusion can the class make after combining the sources, and what condition should be included with that conclusion?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine the city is considering trees near a different busy crosswalk. Write a two-sentence recommendation that uses evidence from at least two passage sources and includes one benefit and one planning concern.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that come from a source, and write a number beside each different source. Then circle the final conclusion that combines information from several sources, so you can see how the evidence works together. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the satellite images and thermometer readings work together to support the idea that trees can make sidewalks cooler?	The images show that some streets have more tree canopy, and the thermometer readings show that shaded sidewalks were usually cooler than sunny sidewalks. Together, they connect tree shade with lower sidewalk temperatures.
2	What does the resident survey add to the thermometer evidence, and what limitation does the survey identify?	The survey shows that people choose shady routes for walking, adding information about how shade affects residents. It also identifies a possible nighttime safety concern because dense tree cover can block streetlights.
3	Which two sources explain why planting trees is not enough by itself, and what does each source add?	The planting records do not show whether trees survived, and the news article explains that young trees need water and care. Together, they show that trees need maintenance after planting.
4	What careful conclusion can the class make after combining the sources, and what condition should be included with that conclusion?	Tree canopy can reduce heat exposure on sidewalks, especially near places people use. Plans should also include maintenance, survival-rate research, and safety concerns such as streetlight visibility.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The city should plant trees near a busy crosswalk because thermometer readings and the resident survey suggest that shade can make walking more comfortable. Before choosing sites, officials should plan for watering and safe streetlight visibility, as the engineer and residents noted.

Accept recommendations that accurately combine evidence from at least two sources rather than relying on one detail alone. The response should include a realistic benefit of shade and a planning concern such as watering, survival, or streetlight safety.