

Wet Spot Detectives

Plan an investigation, then test a solution to a problem.

2.1.B “use scientific practices to plan and conduct simple descriptive investigations and use engineering practices to design solutions to problems;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the actions Maya uses to plan and conduct her investigation. Circle the actions she uses to design and test a solution for the muddy path.

Maya Studies Wet Spots

- ① After a rainstorm, Maya saw puddles near the school garden. She asked, “Which spot stays wet longest?” Maya chose three spots: grass, dirt, and blacktop. She planned to check each spot at the same time each hour.
- ② Maya made a chart with the spot names. At each check, she looked, touched near the edge, and wrote wet or dry. She did not change the spots. Her observations showed that the grass spot stayed wet the longest.
- ③ The wet grass made a muddy path beside the garden. Maya and her partner wanted shoes to stay cleaner. They planned a solution: lay flat stones across the path. They tested the stones by walking carefully across them and noticed less mud on their shoes.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What question did Maya investigate, and when did she plan to check the spots?

2 How did Maya observe and record each spot?

3 What problem did Maya solve? Tell the solution and how she tested it.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Plan two ways to solve small classroom problems. In each row, name the problem, tell what you will observe and record, give a solution idea, and tell how you will test it.

PROBLEM	WHAT I WILL OBSERVE AND RECORD	MY SOLUTION IDEA	HOW I WILL TEST IT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the actions Maya uses to plan and conduct her investigation. Circle the actions she uses to design and test a solution for the muddy path. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What question did Maya investigate, and when did she plan to check the spots?	She investigated which spot stayed wet longest. She planned to check each spot at the same time each hour.
2	How did Maya observe and record each spot?	She looked, touched near the edge, and wrote wet or dry on a chart.
3	What problem did Maya solve? Tell the solution and how she tested it.	The muddy grass path got shoes dirty. She and her partner laid flat stones across the path, then walked carefully across them and noticed less mud on their shoes.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

PROBLEM	WHAT I WILL OBSERVE AND RECORD	MY SOLUTION IDEA	HOW I WILL TEST IT
Crayons roll off the table	Watch for 10 minutes and tally fallen crayons	Put crayons in a tray	Use the tray for 10 minutes and count fallen crayons
Books fall from a crowded shelf	Count books that fall during one day	Add a bookend	Watch the shelf for one day and count fallen books

Accept reasonable classroom problems with an observation and recording plan, a solution, and a way to test the solution. Solutions and tests may differ from the sample if they fit the stated problem.