Clues by the Shore

Use nearby words to figure out unfamiliar words.

3.RV.1.H "Use strategies to infer word meanings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle four words that may be new or tricky. Underline the words nearby that help you figure out what each circled word means.

Maya's Tide Pool Visit

1. At dawn, Maya visited a rocky shore with her uncle. When the tide retreated, or moved back toward the sea, small pools stayed between the rocks. Each pool was a tiny habitat, a home where plants and animals could live. Maya bent close to inspect the clear water. She hoped to spot a sea star or a crab before the waves returned.

2. A crab tucked itself into a narrow crevice under a ledge. Its shell was mottled, with brown and gray spots like the rock around it. Maya almost missed it. Then the crab raised one claw and waved it slowly. Maya stayed motionless, holding her breath and keeping her feet still. She did not want to startle the little animal.

3. Near another pool, Maya saw a shiny trail on a rock. A snail had glided across the wet surface, leaving the trail behind. Her uncle explained that the snail needed shelter before the tide rose. Maya watched it squeeze beneath a mussel shell. The snail was safe from the strong water that would soon rush over the rocks.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does crevice most likely mean? Which words in the passage help you figure it out?

2. What does mottled most likely mean? Which clue helps you?

3. What does motionless most likely mean? Which details help you?

4. What does glided most likely mean in the passage? Which words help you?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about an animal. Use one interesting word that may be new to a reader, and include clues in your sentences that show what the word means.

ANSWER KEY

Clues by the Shore

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle four words that may be new or tricky. Underline the words nearby that help you figure out what each circled word means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does crevice most likely mean? Which words in the passage help you figure it out?	**A crevice is a narrow gap or crack. The clues are "narrow" and "under a ledge."**
2	What does mottled most likely mean? Which clue helps you?	**Mottled means covered with different-colored spots or patches. The clue is "brown and gray spots."**
3	What does motionless most likely mean? Which details help you?	**Motionless means not moving. Maya held her breath and kept her feet still.**
4	What does glided most likely mean in the passage? Which words help you?	**Glided means moved smoothly across a surface. The snail moved across the wet rock and left a trail behind.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The bat is nocturnal. It sleeps in daylight and flies out at night to find insects.

Accept reasonable meanings that match passage clues, even if students use different words. In Part 3, accept two sentences with an unfamiliar or interesting word and enough context to infer its meaning.