Details Grow Ideas

Study how clear details build a paragraph.

3.W.2.A.iii "Engage in writing as a process to compose a well-developed paragraph. This includes: Elaborating writing by including supporting details."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first sentence in each paragraph. Number the later sentences that give details about that first sentence, because supporting details help develop a paragraph.

Our Bean Garden

1. Our class made a small garden beside the playground. First, we pulled weeds and loosened the hard soil with hand tools. Then we added dark compost that smelled like leaves after rain. The compost helps plants get nutrients from the soil. By the end of the morning, the bare patch was soft, rich, and ready for seeds.

2. We planted bean seeds because bean plants grow quickly. Each seed went into a small hole about an inch deep. We covered the holes with soil and gave them a gentle drink of water. After a week, pale green shoots pushed up through the ground. The shoots showed us that the seeds had begun to grow.

3. Caring for the garden became part of our school day. Two students carried watering cans outside when the soil looked dry. Others checked for weeds that could take water and space from the bean plants. We also watched for small white flowers, which can later become bean pods. These jobs kept the young plants healthy and helped our garden change each week.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two supporting details in paragraph 1 tell how the class prepared the garden patch?

2. What supporting detail in paragraph 2 tells how deep each bean seed was planted?

3. How does the detail about pale green shoots add to paragraph 2?

4. Which two details in paragraph 3 show how students cared for the bean plants?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a paragraph about one job you can do to care for a place, such as a classroom, a park, or a library. Begin with a clear main idea and add at least three supporting details in complete sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Details Grow Ideas

GRADE 3 · 3.W.2.A.iii

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the first sentence in each paragraph. Number the later sentences that give details about that first sentence, because supporting details help develop a paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two supporting details in paragraph 1 tell how the class prepared the garden patch?	**They pulled weeds and loosened the soil with hand tools. They added dark compost.**
2	What supporting detail in paragraph 2 tells how deep each bean seed was planted?	**Each seed went into a small hole about an inch deep.**
3	How does the detail about pale green shoots add to paragraph 2?	**It shows that the bean seeds had begun to grow.**
4	Which two details in paragraph 3 show how students cared for the bean plants?	**Students watered the garden when the soil looked dry and checked for weeds that could take water and space from the plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Keeping our classroom library neat helps everyone find books. I would place returned books in the correct bins by their labels. I would straighten bent book covers and pick up books from the floor. Once a week, I would check that each bin has a clear sign. A neat library saves time and protects our books.

Accept accurate quoted details or clear paraphrases for the questions. For the paragraph, accept a clear main idea with at least three relevant supporting details in complete sentences.