Strong Paragraph Endings

Study how a final sentence brings each paragraph to a close.

3.W.2.A.v "Engage in writing as a process to compose a well-developed paragraph. This includes: Providing a concluding statement."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the concluding statement in each paragraph. Notice how each last sentence brings the paragraph's details together.

Our Butterfly Garden

1. Our class turned an empty corner of the playground into a butterfly garden. First, we pulled weeds and loosened the hard soil with small shovels. Next, we planted milkweed, coneflowers, and other plants that butterflies use for food. We also placed a shallow dish of water near the flowers. The new garden gives butterflies a safe place to visit.

2. On the first sunny day, we watched the garden carefully. A yellow butterfly landed on a purple coneflower and drank nectar. Soon, two more butterflies fluttered above the milkweed. We wrote down the colors and numbers we saw in a notebook. Seeing butterflies use the plants showed us that our work was helping the insects.

3. The garden needs care even after planting day ends. Each week, a small team checks whether the soil is dry and adds water when needed. Another team removes weeds so the flowers have room to grow. In fall, we will leave some seed heads for birds to eat. By caring for the garden, our class can help wildlife all year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write the concluding statement from the first paragraph.

2. What main idea does the concluding statement in paragraph 2 bring together?

3. Write the concluding statement from paragraph 3.

4. What do all three concluding statements do for their paragraphs?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence paragraph about one way you can care for a plant or animal near your home or school. Include two detail sentences, and make your last sentence a concluding statement that tells why the care matters.

ANSWER KEY

Strong Paragraph Endings

GRADE 3 · 3.W.2.A.v

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the concluding statement in each paragraph. Notice how each last sentence brings the paragraph's details together. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write the concluding statement from the first paragraph.	**The new garden gives butterflies a safe place to visit.**
2	What main idea does the concluding statement in paragraph 2 bring together?	**It brings together the idea that the class's garden work is helping butterflies.**
3	Write the concluding statement from paragraph 3.	**By caring for the garden, our class can help wildlife all year.**
4	What do all three concluding statements do for their paragraphs?	**They bring the details together and give each paragraph a clear ending.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I can help birds near my home by keeping a birdbath clean. Every few days, I can pour out old water and add fresh water. I can set the birdbath in a shady spot so the water stays cooler. Clean water can help birds stay healthy.

Accept any underlined final sentence in each passage paragraph. For the writing task, accept a focused four-sentence paragraph with two relevant details and a final sentence that clearly closes the idea.