Garden Teamwork

Identify how details and order support a central idea.

4.C.2.A.i "Report orally on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner. This includes: Using descriptive details and appropriate facts to support themes or central ideas."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the central idea of the report. Circle three details that support that idea, then number First, Next, and Finally 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of events.

Our School Garden

(1) Last Saturday, I helped at our school garden for the first time. Our class wanted to grow food for the cafeteria, but the beds were dry and filled with weeds. I arrived at nine o'clock with gloves, a water bottle, and a small trowel. The cool air smelled like soil after rain, and bees buzzed around the nearby flowers.

(2) First, my partner and I pulled weeds from one bed. We loosened their roots with trowels so we would not damage the young lettuce plants. Next, we carried two heavy watering cans from the faucet and soaked the soil slowly. By lunchtime, the bed looked neat, and green leaves stood up instead of hiding under tangled weeds.

(3) Finally, we spread straw around the plants to help the soil keep moisture. When our teacher checked the bed, she said the lettuce would have more room, water, and sunlight to grow. I felt proud because our careful work changed a messy space into a useful garden. This experience showed me that small jobs, done together, can help a whole school.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What central idea does the speaker communicate in this report?

2. Which two details show what the garden bed was like before the work began?

3. Name two specific actions that show how the speaker helped improve the garden.

4. How does the speaker organize the recount? Give the three sequence words and the action connected to each one.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan and deliver a five-sentence oral report about an experience when you helped improve a place or solve a problem. State a central idea, use First, Next, and Finally to organize it, and include at least two descriptive details or facts that support your idea.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Teamwork

GRADE 4 · 4.C.2.A.i

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the central idea of the report. Circle three details that support that idea, then number First, Next, and Finally 1, 2, and 3 to show the order of events. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What central idea does the speaker communicate in this report?	**Small jobs, done together, can help a whole school.**
2	Which two details show what the garden bed was like before the work began?	**The beds were dry and filled with weeds, and the lettuce plants were hiding under tangled weeds.**
3	Name two specific actions that show how the speaker helped improve the garden.	**The speaker pulled weeds and watered the soil. The speaker also spread straw around the plants.**
4	How does the speaker organize the recount? Give the three sequence words and the action connected to each one.	**First, the speaker pulled weeds. Next, the speaker watered the soil. Finally, the speaker spread straw around the plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Helping clean the creek taught me that teamwork can protect nature. First, my brother and I put on thick gloves and filled one bag with plastic bottles. Next, we pulled snack wrappers from the muddy bank and sorted cans for recycling. Finally, we carried three full bags to the park bin. The clear water and cleaner rocks showed that each person's work mattered.

Accept equivalent central ideas that connect teamwork and improving the school garden. For the oral report, accept any organized five-sentence response with a clear central idea, the required sequence words, and at least two relevant supporting details or facts.