Garden Claims

Trace points, reasons, and evidence in an opinion text.

5.RI.1.C "Describe how an author uses reasons, evidence, and opinions to support points in a text, by identifying (and accurately quoting) which reasons and evidence support which point(s)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each point or opinion the author makes. Circle each reason or piece of evidence, then write the number of the point it supports beside it.

A Place for Native Gardens

1 Cities should plant more native flower gardens in parks and along sidewalks. Native plants grow naturally in a region, so they are suited to its weather and soil. This can mean gardeners use less water and fewer fertilizers. In my view, a small native garden is a smart use of public space because it can help people and wildlife at the same time.

2 One reason native gardens deserve public support is that they feed local pollinators. Bees, butterflies, and some other insects collect nectar and pollen from flowers. A report from the Xerces Society explains that native plants often provide better food for native bees than many nonnative ornamental plants. Therefore, choosing native flowers can give pollinators useful food close to where they live.

3 Native gardens can also make neighborhoods more interesting places to learn. City leaders ought to add signs that name each plant and explain which animals use it. Seeing a monarch caterpillar on milkweed, for instance, can teach visitors that milkweed is an important food plant for monarch caterpillars. That evidence supports my point that native gardens are not only pretty but also useful outdoor classrooms.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is the author's main point about native flower gardens? Quote the sentence that states it.

2. The author says native gardens deserve public support. What reason does the author give? Quote the reason.

3. Quote the evidence from the Xerces Society. Which point does this evidence support?

4. What point does the author make about native gardens as classrooms? Quote one piece of evidence used to support that point.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences. State whether city leaders should add signs to native gardens, give one reason, and use two short quoted details from the passage as evidence.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Claims

GRADE 5 · 5.RI.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each point or opinion the author makes. Circle each reason or piece of evidence, then write the number of the point it supports beside it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the author's main point about native flower gardens? Quote the sentence that states it.	**"Cities should plant more native flower gardens in parks and along sidewalks."**
2	The author says native gardens deserve public support. What reason does the author give? Quote the reason.	**"they feed local pollinators."**
3	Quote the evidence from the Xerces Society. Which point does this evidence support?	**"native plants often provide better food for native bees than many nonnative ornamental plants." It supports the point that native gardens deserve public support because they feed local pollinators.**
4	What point does the author make about native gardens as classrooms? Quote one piece of evidence used to support that point.	**The author's point is that native gardens are useful outdoor classrooms. Evidence includes, "Seeing a monarch caterpillar on milkweed, for instance, can teach visitors that milkweed is an important food plant for monarch caterpillars."**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

City leaders should add signs to native gardens. Signs can turn a garden into an outdoor classroom because visitors can learn what they are seeing. The passage says signs can "name each plant" and "explain which animals use it."

Accept a clear opinion about adding signs, one connected reason, and two accurate short quotations from the passage. The student's explanation should show how the quoted details support the opinion.