Clues by the Shore

Use context clues and word parts to infer meanings.

5.RV.1.I "Use strategies to infer word meanings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three challenging words in the passage. Circle the words nearby that help you infer each word's meaning.

A Visit to Tide Pools

1 At dawn, Maya joined a park ranger beside a rocky shoreline. They watched tide pools, small basins left behind when ocean water pulls back. In one pool, a sea star clung to a mussel-covered stone. The ranger said the animal was resilient. Although waves, heat, and hungry birds can trouble it, the sea star can regrow a lost arm.

2 Next, the ranger lifted a piece of wet seaweed and revealed a translucent shrimp. Its body was almost clear, so it blended with the water and was hard to spot. Maya used a hand lens to examine its tiny legs. She noticed that the shrimp moved quickly into a crack when a shadow passed over the pool.

3 As sunset approached, the ranger explained that many tide-pool animals are nocturnal. The word includes noct-, a word part connected to night. These animals rest or hide during bright hours and search for food after dark. Maya quietly returned that evening and saw a small crab scavenging, or feeding on bits left by other animals, near the rocks.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does basins most likely mean in paragraph 1? Which words help you infer its meaning?

2. What does resilient most likely mean in paragraph 1? Use a detail from the passage as evidence.

3. What does translucent most likely mean in paragraph 2? What clues support your inference?

4. What does nocturnal mean in paragraph 3? Use both the word part and the context to explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about an animal you might find outdoors. Use one challenging word and give context clues or a word part that helps show its meaning. Underline the challenging word, then explain what it means in the third sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Clues by the Shore

GRADE 5 · 5.RV.1.I

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three challenging words in the passage. Circle the words nearby that help you infer each word's meaning. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does basins most likely mean in paragraph 1? Which words help you infer its meaning?	**Basins means low pools or bowl-shaped places that hold water. Clues include "tide pools" and "left behind when ocean water pulls back."**
2	What does resilient most likely mean in paragraph 1? Use a detail from the passage as evidence.	**Resilient means able to recover after trouble or damage. The sea star faces waves, heat, and birds, yet it can regrow a lost arm.**
3	What does translucent most likely mean in paragraph 2? What clues support your inference?	**Translucent means almost clear or partly see-through. The shrimp blended with the water and was hard to spot.**
4	What does nocturnal mean in paragraph 3? Use both the word part and the context to explain.	**Nocturnal means active at night. Noct- is connected to night, and the animals search for food after dark.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A lizard was _camouflaged_, with skin colored like the brown leaves around it. It stayed still on the forest floor, so a hawk could not easily see it. Camouflaged means hidden by colors or patterns that match the surroundings.

Accept close meanings when students use passage clues to support their inference. For the open task, accept any accurate meaning explanation supported by the student's context clues or word-part clue.