Garden Argument Map

Study how a writer builds a persuasive position with facts.

5.W.2.A.i "Engage in writing as a process to compose well-developed paragraphs. This includes: Introducing a clear topic sentence and logically organizing ideas and factual evidence to support the position in persuasive writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the topic sentence in each paragraph. Circle factual details, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside the paragraphs to show the order of the writer's reasons.

A Garden for Our School

1. Our school should create a small native-plant garden near the playground. Native plants are species that grow naturally in a region, so they are suited to local weather. A garden could give students a place to observe insects, leaves, and seeds during science lessons. It would also replace part of a grassy area with plants that have a clear learning purpose.

2. A native-plant garden would support local animals that need food and shelter. Bees visit flowers to collect nectar and pollen. Some butterflies lay eggs only on certain kinds of plants, and their caterpillars eat leaves from those plants. By including several native species, the garden could offer more places for insects to feed, rest, and grow.

3. The garden would also be a practical outdoor project. Many native plants can grow with less extra water than plants from wetter regions after their roots are established. Plant roots help hold soil in place when rain falls. Students could label each plant, record seasonal changes, and help care for the space. For these reasons, our school should plan a native-plant garden.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What position does the writer state in the first paragraph?

2. Which two facts in paragraph 2 support the idea that the garden would help local animals?

3. What factual evidence about water does the writer use in paragraph 3?

4. How are the three paragraphs organized to build the writer's argument?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five-sentence persuasive paragraph about one improvement your school should make. State your position in the first sentence, organize three factual details to support it, and restate your position in the last sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Argument Map

GRADE 5 · 5.W.2.A.i

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the topic sentence in each paragraph. Circle factual details, then write 1, 2, or 3 beside the paragraphs to show the order of the writer's reasons. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What position does the writer state in the first paragraph?	**The writer believes the school should create a small native-plant garden near the playground.**
2	Which two facts in paragraph 2 support the idea that the garden would help local animals?	**Bees visit flowers to collect nectar and pollen. Some butterflies lay eggs on certain plants, and their caterpillars eat leaves from those plants.**
3	What factual evidence about water does the writer use in paragraph 3?	**Many native plants can grow with less extra water than plants from wetter regions after their roots are established.**
4	How are the three paragraphs organized to build the writer's argument?	**Paragraph 1 states the position and learning purpose, paragraph 2 explains how animals would benefit, and paragraph 3 explains practical benefits before restating the position.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should add a covered bike rack near the main entrance. A covered rack keeps rain off bicycles, which can help keep seats and handlebars drier. A rack gives bicycles a designated place instead of leaving them near walkways. Bicycles take up less parking space than cars. A covered bike rack would make arriving by bicycle more practical.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the passage facts and organization. For the open response, look for a clear first-sentence position, three relevant factual details in a logical order, and a concluding restatement of the position.