



✓ Answer Key — Find the Main Idea: Five Days of Grade 3 Reading

READING PASSAGE

No answers required — this is a reading page.

DAY 1: THE READING GARDEN

Sample answers. Accept other wording that gives the same idea and is supported by the passage.

? COMPREHENSION

1. **Neighbors turned an empty patch by the library into a reading garden.**
2. **Accept one supporting detail: neighbors planted flowers, added two benches, or added a book-sharing box; volunteers water the plants or keep the box full; children read there after school.**
3. **It tells just one fact about the garden. The main idea explains how neighbors made a place to read together.**

DAY 2: A TEAM OF BEES

Sample answers. Accept other wording that gives the same idea and is supported by the passage.

? COMPREHENSION

1. **Bees help many plants make fruit and seeds by carrying pollen between flowers.**
2. **Pollen sticks to their bodies as they visit flowers.**
3. **No. It is a detail; the passage mainly explains how bees help plants.**

DAY 3: A BETTER BOTTLE

Sample answers. Accept other wording that gives the same idea and is supported by the passage.

? COMPREHENSION

1. **Students brought reusable bottles and refilled them at a new station.**
2. **Using reusable bottles and a refill station reduced plastic waste at school.**
3. **It shows the school's waste problem before students started using reusable bottles.**

DAY 4: OUR SCHOOL RADIO

Sample answers. Accept other wording that gives the same idea and is supported by the passage.

? COMPREHENSION

1. **Students work together and check their work to make a clear, accurate school radio show.**
2. **Accept any two: one student checks facts; another asks classmates questions; two read announcements; the group practices difficult words; the group checks names with the office.**
3. **They want to say the correct names in the show so listeners hear accurate information.**

DAY 5: FOOD FOR A LONG TRIP

Sample answers. Accept other wording that gives the same idea and is supported by the passage.

? COMPREHENSION

1. Astronaut meals must be planned and packed carefully for a long space mission.
2. Accept any two: teams plan and pack food on Earth; some foods are dried and need water added before eating; other foods are packed in sealed containers; astronauts need a mix of foods to stay healthy.
3. Drying food is one part of meal planning. The main idea covers the different ways meals are planned and packed for space travel.