Author's Purpose

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Colors After the Rain

Have you ever seen a rainbow after a rain shower? A rainbow forms when sunlight shines through tiny drops of water in the air. To see one, you need the sun behind you and the rain in front of you. Rainbows often appear in the late afternoon, when the sun is low.

Sunlight looks white, but it is really a mix of many colors. When light enters a raindrop, it bends. Each color bends a different amount, so the colors spread apart.

Next, the light hits the back of the raindrop. The back of the drop works like a tiny mirror. It bounces the colored light back toward the front. As the light leaves the drop, it bends again and the colors spread even more. Then the light travels to your eyes.

Millions of raindrops do this at the same time. Together, they make a giant curve of color across the sky. The colors always come in the same order. Red is on the top, and violet is on the bottom. Orange, yellow, green, and blue fill the space in between.

1. How does the author help readers picture the back of a raindrop?
   - by saying it is as round as a big ball
   - by saying it is shaped like a curve
   - by saying it works like a tiny mirror

2. Which question can a reader answer using paragraph 4?
   - What color is sunlight when it is white?
   - How long does a rainbow last in the sky?
   - What order do a rainbow's colors come in?

3. In what order does the author tell what happens to the light?
   - bends as it enters the drop, then bounces off the back, then travels to your eyes
   - bounces off the back, then bends as it enters the drop, then travels to your eyes
   - travels to your eyes, then bends as it enters the drop, then bounces off the back

4. What question does the author answer in this text?
   - Why does it rain in the spring?
   - How do clouds make raindrops?
   - How does a rainbow form?

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet

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