Main Topic in Paragraphs

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Riding the Wind

Hot air balloons are big balloons that carry people across the sky. Each one has three main parts. The giant cloth bag on top is called the envelope. A basket hangs below it for the riders. A burner sits between them, just above the basket.

A hot air balloon rises because of hot air. The burner shoots a flame up into the envelope. The flame heats the air inside. Hot air is lighter than the cooler air around it. So the balloon floats up, like a bubble rising in water.

A pilot cannot steer a balloon the way you steer a bike. Instead, the pilot moves it up or down. Winds at different heights blow in different directions. The pilot finds a wind going the right way and rides it. To land, the pilot lets the air inside cool down.

1. What is paragraph 3 mostly about?
   - how a pilot guides the balloon
   - how the burner heats the air
   - the names of a balloon's parts

2. Which detail belongs in paragraph 3?
   - The envelope is often made of strong cloth.
   - The pilot may go higher to find a wind blowing east.
   - The flame from the burner is loud and very hot.

3. Which sentence tells the main topic?
   - The flame heats the air inside.
   - Hot air balloons are big balloons that carry people across the sky.
   - A basket hangs below it for the riders.

4. Which detail supports the idea that the pilot uses the wind to choose a direction?
   - Winds at different heights blow in different directions.
   - A burner sits between them, just above the basket.
   - Hot air is lighter than the cooler air around it.

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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