Author's Purpose and Text Structure

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

From Seed to Pumpkin

Pumpkins take a long time to grow. A farmer has to follow the steps in the right order.

First, the farmer plants pumpkin seeds in late spring. The soil must be warm, or the seeds will not sprout. Each seed goes about one inch deep.

Next, small green shoots push up through the soil. In about a week, two leaves open. Soon the plant grows long vines that creep across the ground.

After that, bright yellow flowers bloom on the vines. Bees fly from flower to flower. They carry pollen, and this helps tiny pumpkins start to form.

Then the pumpkins grow bigger and bigger. They begin green and slowly turn orange. This takes about three months.

Finally, the farmer cuts the pumpkins from the vines in the fall. Some go to stores. Others are sold at the farm. Growing pumpkins takes patience, but it is worth the wait. Now you know how a pumpkin grows from one small seed.

1. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text?

   to entertain readers with a farm story

   to inform readers how a pumpkin grows

   to persuade readers to buy pumpkins

2. How is this text organized?

   sequence, or steps in time order

   compare and contrast

   problem and solution

3. Which words are clues to how this text is organized?

   First, Next, After that, Finally

   Alike, Different, Both

   Because, So, As a result

4. What happens right after the yellow flowers bloom?

Small green shoots push up.

Bees carry pollen from flower to flower.

The farmer plants the seeds.

5. Which sentence states the author's purpose most directly?

Now you know how a pumpkin grows from one small seed.

They begin green and slowly turn orange.

Bees fly from flower to flower.

6. Why must the soil be warm when the seeds are planted?

so the bees find the flowers

so the seeds will sprout

so the pumpkins turn orange

7. The vines creep across the ground. What does creep mean?

move slowly and low break into pieces jump up high

8. Which paragraph tells what bees do?

the fourth paragraph the second paragraph the last paragraph

9. Which sentence shows the author's own point of view?

Others are sold at the farm.

The soil must be warm, or the seeds will not sprout.

Growing pumpkins takes patience, but it is worth the wait.

10. Why does the author use words like First and Next?

to make readers laugh at the busy farmer

to help readers follow the steps

to show readers which pumpkin is the biggest

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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