Main Idea and Supporting Details

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the answer to each question.

READ THIS FIRST

Coral Reefs

A coral reef looks like a rocky garden under the sea, but it is built by tiny animals called coral polyps. Each polyp makes a hard cup around its soft body. Over many years, billions of cups pile up into a reef.

Reefs are crowded with life. Fish hide in the cracks. Crabs and sea stars crawl across the stone, and turtles stop by to munch sea grass nearby.

Reefs are in danger, though. Warm water can make polyps sick, and trash can block the sunlight they need. People are cleaning beaches and protecting reefs so they can keep growing.

1. What is the main idea of the whole text?
   Reefs are homes. Sea stars crawl. Polyps are soft. Beaches get cleaned.

2. What is the main idea of paragraph 1?
   Polyps build reefs. Fish hide in cracks. Warm water hurts. Turtles eat grass.

3. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 1?
   Cups pile up. Turtles eat grass. Crabs crawl on it. Warm water hurts.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?
   Turtles eat grass. Reefs face danger. Polyps build reefs. Reefs are crowded.

5. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 2?
   Warm water hurts. Trash blocks light. Fish hide in cracks. Cups pile up.

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?
   Reefs are crowded. Trash is bad. Polyps build reefs. Reefs face danger.

7. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 3?
   Trash blocks light. Fish hide in cracks. Crabs crawl on it. Cups pile up.

8. Which detail does not belong in this text?
   Cups pile up. Camels have humps. Trash blocks light. Fish hide in cracks.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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1. What is the main idea of the whole text?

   Reefs are homes. Sea stars crawl. Polyps are soft. Beaches get cleaned.

2. What is the main idea of paragraph 1?

   Polyps build reefs. Fish hide in cracks. Warm water hurts. Turtles eat grass.

3. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 1?

   Cups pile up. Turtles eat grass. Crabs crawl on it. Warm water hurts.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

   Turtles eat grass. Reefs face danger. Polyps build reefs. **Reefs are crowded.**

5. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 2?

   Warm water hurts. Trash blocks light. **Fish hide in cracks.** Cups pile up.

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

   Reefs are crowded. Trash is bad. Polyps build reefs. **Reefs face danger.**

7. Which detail supports the main idea of paragraph 3?

   Trash blocks light. Fish hide in cracks. Crabs crawl on it. Cups pile up.

8. Which detail does not belong in this text?

   Cups pile up. **Camels have humps.** Trash blocks light. Fish hide in cracks.