Find the Theme

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle the detail from the story that shows what each question says.

READ THIS FIRST

The Heron Who Would Not Ask

In a marsh full of tall reeds lived a young heron named Long-Legs. Spring had come, and it was time to build her first nest. The older herons offered to show her how. "No, thank you," she said. "I can do it myself."

Long-Legs gathered sticks and piled them on a low branch. She did not weave them together. She simply stacked them. The first breeze sent half the sticks splashing into the water.

She tried again on a higher branch. This time she used only thin twigs because they were easy to carry. The nest looked fine until a duck landed beside it. The branch shook, and the twigs scattered.

On the third morning, Long-Legs watched an old heron named Gray Wing. Gray Wing chose thick sticks for the bottom and thin ones for the top. She tucked each stick under the others, like the strands of a basket.

Long-Legs flew over, feeling a little shy. "Will you show me how you do that?" she asked.

Gray Wing smiled. "I was hoping you would ask."

Gray Wing worked beside her all afternoon. By sunset, Long-Legs had a strong, round nest. That night the wind blew hard across the marsh, but her nest did not move.

1. Which words show Long-Legs refusing help at the start?
   "Will you show me how you do that?"
   "No, thank you. I can do it myself."
   "I was hoping you would ask."

2. Which event shows the lesson paying off?
   The older herons offer to help her.
   Her nest stays still in a strong wind.
   Half her sticks splash into the water.

3. Which detail shows that Long-Legs' second nest was not strong enough?
   The older herons had offered to show her how at the start.
   She tried again on a higher branch.
   A duck landed beside it, and the twigs scattered.

4. Which detail shows that Long-Legs finally asked for help?
   The first breeze sent half the sticks splashing into the water.
   Gray Wing worked beside her all afternoon.
   She asked, "Will you show me how you do that?"

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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