Vocabulary Skill Check

Grade 3 · Meaning from context · Try 2

Name or code _____ Date _____

Read each passage. Circle the letter that gives the best meaning in that passage.

Passage 1

A small feather lay beside the entrance to the nature center.

Tara stopped and pointed it out while the others were still walking past.

She had been the first person to **notice** it.

The group left the feather where it was and looked at its colors from the path.

1. As used in paragraph 3, what does the word “notice” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A become aware of something
B forget about something
C search carefully for a long time
D make something happen

Passage 2

Rae hung her coat beside the classroom door.

She thought an **ordinary** morning lay ahead.

The class followed the same steps as on every school day: unpack, take attendance, then read.

A blue folder lay beside the teacher’s chair.

2. As used in paragraph 2, what does the word “ordinary” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A important rather than unimportant
B new rather than old or used
C quiet and without much noise
D like a normal day

Passage 3

Evan could not understand why his paper bridge bent when the other bridges stayed straight.

He looked back and forth between his model and the instructions.

He was **puzzled**, so he asked a classmate to help him compare the folds.

Together they found one fold that faced the wrong way.

3. As used in paragraph 3, what does the word “puzzled” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A proud and hoping to be praised
B angry and ready to argue
C unsure why something happens
D curious but already certain

Passage 4

After the trail walk, Lila found the sketchbook she had left on a bench.

Another student had kept it dry when rain began.

Lila was **grateful** for the help.

She thanked the student and said the careful kindness had meant a lot to her.

4. As used in paragraph 3, what does the word “grateful” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A thankful for another’s help
B pleased with one’s own success
C feeling worried about a problem
D feeling certain about an answer

Passage 5

The art class had just painted a long paper mural on the floor.

The paint needed more time to dry before anyone could touch it.

Signs sent visitors through a different hallway so they would not step on the wet paper.

The signs helped everyone **avoid** the mural until the paint was dry.

5. As used in paragraph 4, what does the word “avoid” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A wait nearby for a short time
B go toward as quickly as possible
C look at from every side
D keep clear of a place or thing

Passage 6

Cups were spread across three tables after the trail club picnic.

Mina put a large empty box beside the door.

Everyone carried cups from the tables to that single box.

When they had finished, Mina thanked them for helping **gather** the cups.

6. As used in paragraph 4, what does the word “gather” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A give things away one at a time
B collect things in one place
C leave things where they are
D put items into separate groups

Teacher use: ____ / 6