

**Wonders**

Grade 3

# Weekly Assessments

















Medicine is probably the least known use for plants. Most people have heard of aspirin. Many people take this medicine for pain or when they have a fever. Most people do not know that this medicine comes from plants. Aspirin is made from the bark of the willow tree. Another drug called quinine is made from tree bark. It is used to treat malaria. Malaria is a very serious disease, but it is treatable thanks to plants. People who live in warm climates can get the disease from mosquito bites. Now scientists are testing a new drug to treat this illness. The new medicine comes from a plant, too.

Plants provide so much for people. We should not forget one other important thing plants give us. They give us beauty! Imagine a world without colorful flowers, tall trees, and swaying grasses. Is that a world you would want to live in?



Now answer Numbers 6 through 10. Base your answers on “Plants and People.”

- 6 Complete the chart with the main idea of the article and two details that support the main idea. Write the correct sentences from the box. Not all sentences will be used.

Main Idea	Supporting Details

**Sentences:**  
 People use plants for food.  
 People see trees along streets.  
 People use plants to build things.  
 People have found many uses for plants.  
 People often have heard of aspirin as a medicine.

- 7 Read the sentences from the article.

Reeds are also useful in making objects. People have woven reeds into baskets and mats for thousands of years.

Which word has the **same** root word as useful?

- (A) fully
- (B) reuse
- (C) selfish
- (D) usually

**8** Read the paragraph from the article.

Many plants are useful for just one thing. Others have almost countless uses. Take bamboo, for example. This strong yet light grass grows very tall very quickly. You can eat it. You can wear it. You can use it to build everything from a bridge to a bike. People have even built cars from bamboo!

Which statement **best** summarizes the main idea of the paragraph?

- (A) Bamboo has many uses for people.
- (B) Bamboo has even been used to build cars.
- (C) Bamboo is strong yet light enough to carry.
- (D) Bamboo grows tall and quickly for farmers to harvest.

**9** Read the sentences from the article.

Malaria is a very serious disease, but it is treatable thanks to plants.

Which word has the same root word as treatable?

- (A) eaten
- (B) timetable
- (C) treatment
- (D) usable

- 10** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A:** Read the paragraph from the article.

Medicine is probably the least known use for plants. Most people have heard of aspirin. Many people take this medicine for pain or when they have a fever. Most people do not know that this medicine comes from plants. Aspirin is made from the bark of the willow tree. Another drug called quinine is made from tree bark. It is used to treat malaria. Malaria is a very serious disease, but it is treatable thanks to plants. People who live in warm climates can get the disease from mosquito bites. Now scientists are testing a new drug to treat this illness. The new medicine comes from a plant, too.

Which sentence **best** states the main idea of the paragraph?

- (A) Plants have many uses for people.
- (B) Plants are used to develop medicines.
- (C) Medicines are similar to plants in many ways.
- (D) There are many plants that we have not discovered yet.

**Part B:** Pick **two** details that would **best** support the main idea of this paragraph.

- (A) Mosquitos come from warm climates.
- (B) Some plants have very strange names.
- (C) Scientists study plants for new medicines.
- (D) People can buy their medicine in local markets.
- (E) There is often more than one medicine for an illness.
- (F) People chew the bark of the willow tree to get rid of headaches.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Now answer Number 11. Base your answer on “Beatrix Potter: Lover of Nature” and “Plants and People.”**

**11** How do the articles show the positive effect nature has on our lives? Include information from both articles to support your answer.

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Question	Correct Answer	Content Focus	CCSS	Complexity
1A	B	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
1B	D	Main Idea and Key Details/Text Evidence	RI.3.2/ RI.3.1	DOK 2
2	B	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
3	see below	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
4A	C	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
4B	A	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
5	C, F	Author’s Point of View	RI.3.6	DOK 3
6	see below	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
7	B	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
8	A	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
9	C	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
10A	B	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
10B	C, F	Main Idea and Key Details/Text Evidence	RI.3.2/ RI.3.1	DOK 2
11	see below	Writing About Text	W.3.8	DOK 4

Comprehension 1A, 1B, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10A, 10B	/12	%
Vocabulary 2, 4A, 4B, 7, 9	/8	%
<b>Total Weekly Assessment Score</b>	<b>/20</b>	<b>%</b>

- 3 Students should circle the following sentences to include in a summary:
  - Beatrix wrote many books for children.
  - Beatrix became a skilled artist.
  - Beatrix loved nature and animals.
- 6 Students should complete the chart as follows:
  - Main Idea—People have found many uses for plants.
  - Supporting Details—People use plants for food.; People use plants to build things.
- 11 To receive full credit for the response, the following information should be included: Student responses should focus on the following main ideas and provide text evidence: Beatrix Potter’s love of nature inspired her to write many books and protect her land. In the article “Plants and People,” the author shows that plants provide us with many things that improve our lives.