Year 4 reading comprehension: Fewer Nests

English · Reading comprehension
Level: Medium

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- Read the text first. There are 3 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Circle the best answer. Look back at the text to find the words that tell you.
- A grown-up can read the text aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

Read this, then answer questions 1–3.

Fewer Nests

Each spring, Ranger Kim counts the shearwater nests on Bird Island. Ten years ago she counted 90 nests. This year she counted only 35. A visitor said, “There are plenty of birds, so there is nothing to worry about.” The number of nests has dropped by more than half, and Ranger Kim wants to find out why.

1. What does the last sentence show Ranger Kim wants to do?

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** Find out why the nests have dropped
- ○ **B** Count the nests again in ten years’ time
- ○ **C** Stop counting the nests
- ○ **D** Tell visitors there is nothing to worry about

2. What do Ranger Kim's counts show?

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** There are plenty of birds, so nothing is wrong.
- ○ **B** The number of nests has fallen a lot.
- ○ **C** The nests are bigger than before.
- ○ **D** The number of nests has risen.

3. What is the main idea of this text?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Shearwater nests on Bird Island have dropped, and the ranger wants to know why.

○ **B** There were 90 nests ten years ago.

○ **C** Ranger Kim counts the nests each spring.

○ **D** A visitor thinks there is nothing to worry about.

Answer key

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1. A — Find out why the nests have dropped

The last sentence says she ‘wants to find out why’ the number has dropped. Counting nests is what she has already done, and the visitor is the one who says not to worry.

2. B — The number of nests has fallen a lot.

Ninety nests ten years ago and only 35 now is a big drop. The visitor's opinion does not change the counts. ‘There are plenty of birds, so nothing is wrong.’ is only what one person in the text says.

3. A — Shearwater nests on Bird Island have dropped, and the ranger wants to know why.

The counts show a big drop and the last sentence says Ranger Kim wants to find out why. ‘Ranger Kim counts the nests each spring.’ is in the text, but it is not what the question asks for.