

INFERENCE & EVIDENCE

Q1 · Wk2

Grade 5

Maya's Team

WISDOM

Good leaders listen and ask for help, not knowing everything.

preceptor reads aloud

DO THIS

► Read the passage carefully.

READ · read carefully — you will answer questions about this

- 1 Maya had always been quiet. She sat in the back row of her class and rarely raised her hand, even when she knew the answer. But when Ms. Chen asked for a student leader for the school's community garden project, something inside Maya whispered yes.
- 2 "Are you sure?" her best friend Jordan asked. "You're so shy." "I know," Maya said softly. "But I think I can do it."
- 3 On the first day, ten students showed up to help with the garden. Some were older than Maya. Some had done gardening before. Maya felt nervous standing in front of them all. Her hands shook a little as she held her clipboard. But instead of pretending to know everything, Maya did something brave. She asked questions.
- 4 "What does everyone think we should plant?" she asked the group. "I want to hear your ideas." A girl named Sophia raised her hand. "We could grow tomatoes. I've helped my grandma with hers." "That's great!" Maya said. "Will you help me figure out where to plant them?"
- 5 When Marcus said he didn't know anything about gardening, Maya didn't make him feel bad. "That's okay," she said. "We can learn together. You can help me mix the soil. I'll teach you what I know, and you can teach me what you learn."
- 6 Day by day, the students worked together. They dug, planted, and watered. When something didn't work—like the seeds that wouldn't sprout—Maya didn't blame anyone. She asked everyone for ideas to fix it. When someone had a good idea, Maya made sure they knew how much their help meant.

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▶ Read the passage carefully.

READ (continued) • keep reading

- 7 By the end of summer, the garden was full of vegetables. Tomatoes hung from tall plants. Lettuce grew in neat rows. Carrots poked their orange tops from the dark soil. But the best part wasn't the vegetables. It was how happy everyone felt when they walked to the garden.
- 8 One day, Mrs. Rodriguez from the office came to visit. She saw the beautiful plants and the smiling faces. "This is wonderful," she said. "Maya, you did an amazing job leading this team." Maya's cheeks turned pink. "I didn't do it alone," she said. "Everyone here helped. Sophia knew about tomatoes. Marcus mixed the soil so well. And Jordan made sure we all stayed organized. I just asked for help and listened."
- 9 Mrs. Rodriguez smiled. "That's exactly what a good leader does." As Maya walked through the garden with Mrs. Rodriguez, she realized something important. Being a leader didn't mean knowing everything or being the loudest person. It meant knowing your own limits, asking others what they could do, and helping everyone shine. The quiet girl had learned that the smallest voice could lead the biggest growth.

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DO THIS

► Use what the text says and what you know to figure out more.

HOW TO INFER • read this worked example — see how the clues fit together

THE TEXT SAYS . . .

"Her hands shook a little as she held her clipboard" and earlier in the story it says "Maya had always been quiet. She sat in the back row of her class."

WHAT I KNOW . . .

When people are nervous or anxious, their hands often shake. Maya had always been quiet, so leading a group would be hard for her.

SO I INFER . . .

Maya was nervous because she was shy and had never led a group before.

YOUR TURN • read the question and write your inference

Why did Mrs. Rodriguez say that was what a good leader does when Maya said she just asked for help and listened?

WHICH WORDS HELPED YOU KNOW? • copy the evidence from the passage

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YOUR TURN • read the question and write your inference

Why did Mrs. Rodriguez say that was what a good leader does when Maya said she just asked for help and listened?

Mrs. Rodriguez believed that the real skill of a good leader is knowing how to ask for help and listening to others' ideas, not doing everything yourself.

WHICH WORDS HELPED YOU KNOW? • copy the evidence from the passage

After Maya said "I just asked for help and listened," Mrs. Rodriguez smiled and said "That's exactly what a good leader does."