

A Clean Park

Tyler ran into the kitchen.

"Mom, I'm going to the park!" he said.

"Wear your helmet!" his mom called back. The park was just down the street. Tyler grabbed his bike and rode there. It was pretty much his favorite place to go. The park looked pretty crowded. Some kids were playing. But other kids held garbage bags. They were picking up trash.

Tyler stopped his bike. One of the kids was Lauren, a girl from his school. She waved at Tyler.

"We're cleaning up the park today," she said. "Want to help?"

"No thanks," Tyler said. Today was Saturday, a day off. He came to the park to have fun, not to work!

Tyler rode his bike around the path. He passed the swings and slide. He passed the small pond. As he rode, he saw things he never noticed before. There was lots of garbage on the ground. He saw old soda bottles. He saw old food wrappers. It was pretty gross.

Tyler rode back to Lauren. He got off his bike.

"I'll help," he said. Lauren smiled.

"Here," she said. She gave him a bag. Tyler and the kids cleaned for about an hour. When they were done, the park looked great. Tyler rode his bike around the path again. There were no old soda bottles. There were no old food wrappers. Tyler smiled. Now the park was better than ever!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. Why were the kids cleaning the park?

2. Why did Tyler decide to help clean the park?

3. At first, why didn't Tyler want to help clean the park?

4. What is this passage mostly about?

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

One Saturday, Tyler and his friends decided to clean the park because there was so much garbage around it.

Who? Tyler and his friends

5. (did) What?

6. When?

7. Why?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Tyler changes his mind about helping Lauren _____ he realizes how gross the park is.

- A but
- B because
- C so

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **notice** (no · tice): to become aware of.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **notice**.
- a. When my mom finally noticed my hair, she screamed because I had dyed it blue!
 - b. I noticed that the flag was missing from our classroom and asked my teacher where it was.
 - c. When my cat noticed the dog in our yard, he ran into the house.
 - d. The bird noticed the worm and swooped down to catch it.
 - e. The sailor noticed a ship ahead so he changed the direction of his boat.
10. Which is easier to notice out in the ocean?



Teacher Guide and Answer Key

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 220

Featured Text Structure: N/A

Passage Summary: The passage is about how Tyler decided to help some kids in his class clean the park on a Saturday. At first he just wanted to play, but when he noticed how dirty the park was he decided to help clean it, making the park better than ever.

To the Teacher: Read the passage aloud to the class [TIP: while reading aloud, show the passage on a whiteboard or give each student a copy of the passage so they can follow along].

Then, use the text-dependent questions 1-8 to facilitate a whole class discussion to ensure students comprehend the key details from the passage.

Finally, use questions 9-10 to deep teach one important vocabulary word [TIP: you can use the model provided for teaching additional vocabulary].

1. Why were the kids cleaning the park? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: The kids were cleaning the park because it was very dirty and they wanted to make the park a clean and nice place to play.
[paragraphs 2, 4]

2. Why did Tyler decide to help clean the park? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: After riding his bike around the park for a little while, Tyler noticed how dirty the park was and decided he should help clean it up.
[paragraph 3]

3. At first, why didn't Tyler want to help clean the park? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: At first, Tyler didn't want to help clean the park because it was Saturday and he wanted to play and not work. [paragraph 2]

4. What is this passage mostly about? [Main Idea]

Suggested answer: The passage is about how Tyler and some other students cleaned the park and made it nicer than ever.

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

One Saturday, Tyler and his friends decided to clean the park because there was so much garbage around it.

Who? Tyler and his friends

5. (did) What? **cleaned the park**
6. When? **one Saturday**
7. Why? **because there was so much garbage around the park**
8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Tyler changes his mind about helping Lauren _____ he realizes how gross the park is.

A but

B because

C so

To the Teacher: ReadWorks recommends that you teach this vocabulary word to the whole class out loud using the four steps listed below.

Vocabulary Word: **notice** (no · tice): to become aware of.

Step 1: Introduce the word

- a. Teacher writes the word on the board and divides it into syllables: (no · tice)
- b. Teacher says: "This word is notice. What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "Notice."]

Step 2: Provide a child-friendly definition

- a. Teacher says: "To notice is to become aware of."

- b. Teacher says: "In the passage, Tyler was riding his bike in the park and saw a lot of garbage. He noticed how dirty the park was, which means he became aware of it."
- c. Teacher says: "What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "Notice."]

Step 3: Practice the word

Teacher provides examples and additional opportunities to repeat the word. Read the first sentence out loud to your students. Begin reading it again and when you come to the vocabulary word prompt students to say the vocabulary word out loud. Then, finish reading the sentence out loud to your students.

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **notice** (no · tice): to become aware of.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **notice**.
- a. When my mom finally noticed my hair, she screamed because I had dyed it blue!
- b. I noticed that the flag was missing from our classroom and asked my teacher where it was.
- c. When my cat noticed the dog in our yard, he ran into the house.
- d. The bird noticed the worm and swooped down to catch it.
- e. The sailor noticed a ship ahead so he changed the direction of his boat.

Step 4: Check for student understanding

To the Teacher: This step can be completed as a whole class activity or as an independent practice.

10. Which is easier to notice out in the ocean?



Suggested Additional Vocabulary: crowded