

Name _____

Support Searchers Answer Key

Claim #	Text Evidence (Sentence(s) from the Passage)	Explanation (How It Supports the Claim)
1	"Some people think competition rules the natural world, but forests tell a different story. The cooperation between species helps them all survive harsh seasons and fires."	These sentences show that cooperation, not competition, helps trees survive together.
2	"Scientists have even found that older trees often support younger ones, ensuring the forest stays balanced."	This sentence clearly states that older trees help younger ones, maintaining balance.
3	"Fungal threads called mycorrhizae connect tree roots, allowing them to share water and nutrients."	This sentence explains the essential role of the underground network in sharing resources that keep the forest healthy.

Teacher Notes / Teacher's Guide

Objective: Students will practice identifying **explicit textual evidence** that supports claims, reinforcing the skill of grounding interpretations in the text.

Teaching Tips:

- Begin with a short class discussion about what "text evidence" means and why it's important.
- Have students first make predictions about which sentences might support each claim *before rereading*.
- Encourage them to notice **signal phrases** that indicate evidence (e.g., "scientists have found," "this shows that," etc.).
- For differentiation, pair stronger readers with those needing support during the highlighting phase, then compare answers as a group.