

Name _____

Date _____

Features of Informative Text

Text features are elements of a text that help organize and call attention to important information.

Informational texts such as "Magic and the Brain" often contain one or more text features, follow these tips:

- titles, headings, subheadings
- sidebar
- boldface type
- footnotes

Read the following informative text and answer the questions.

The Amazing Migration of Monarch Butterflies

Monarch butterflies are known for their remarkable migration journey across North America. These orange and black insects travel up to 3,000 miles from the United States and Canada to central Mexico each fall. No single butterfly makes the entire round-trip journey, as their lifespan is too short. Instead, it takes several generations to complete the full migration cycle.

The migration begins in late summer when decreasing daylight and cooler temperatures signal to monarchs that it's time to travel south. They gather in large groups and fly to specific mountain forests in Mexico, where they cluster together on oyamel fir trees. These trees

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provide the perfect temperature and humidity conditions for the butterflies to survive winter.

Scientists are still puzzled by how monarchs navigate such vast distances. They believe these insects use a combination of the sun's position and Earth's magnetic field as their natural compass. Unfortunately, monarch populations have declined by about 80% in recent decades due to habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change. Conservation efforts are underway to protect these amazing travelers and their migration routes.

1. What is the main purpose of this informative text?

2. Name two facts you learned about monarch butterfly migration from the text.

3. According to the text, what challenges do monarch butterflies currently face?

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Features of Informative Text – Answer Key

1. What is the main purpose of this informative text?

The main purpose is to inform readers about the monarch butterfly migration process, including how far they travel, their destination, how multiple generations complete the journey, and the challenges they face.

2. According to the text, what challenges do monarch butterflies currently face?

According to the text, monarch populations have declined by about 80% in recent decades due to habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change.

3. Name two facts you learned about monarch butterfly migration from the text.

Monarchs travel up to 3,000 miles from the US and Canada to Mexico; No single butterfly makes the entire round-trip journey; The migration begins in late summer when daylight decreases; They cluster on oyamel fir trees in Mexico during winter; Scientists believe they navigate using the sun's position and Earth's magnetic field.(Any two of these or other factual statements from the text would be correct.)