



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT School Publishers

Copyright © by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be addressed to Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers, Attn: Permissions, 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777.

Printed in China

ISBN-13: 978-0-547-02211-6 ISBN-10: 0-547-02211-5

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 0940 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11

If you have received these materials as examination copies free of charge, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers retains title to the materials and they may not be resold. Resale of examination copies is strictly prohibited.

Possession of this publication in print format does not entitle users to convert this publication, or any portion of it, into electronic format.

When Luz and her mom moved to their new apartment, Luz looked at the building. In the front, there was a sidewalk. On the left, there was another plain brick building. And on the right, there was a store.



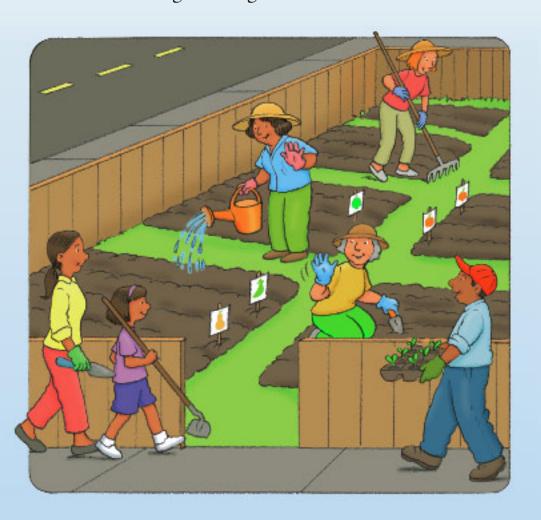
- Luz ran around to the back of their new building. A parking lot filled the whole backyard. Luz sighed.
- At their old place, they had always planted a garden. Every summer, flowers were blooming and a wonderful scent filled the air. But here, there was no space for a garden.



- The next day, Luz and her mom went for a walk. They saw two women with shovels.
- "Do you have a garden?" asked Luz eagerly.
- The women nodded. One said, "Yes we do.
- It is a community garden. We'll show you."



As soon as they could, Luz and her mom joined the community garden. They got their own garden plot, and they met the other gardeners. Everyone was very friendly. Luz loved working in the garden.



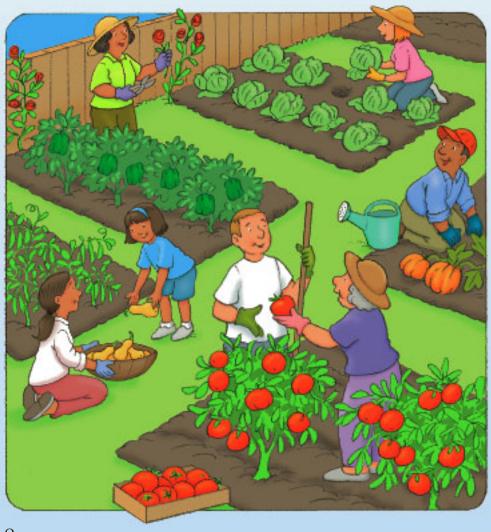
- Luz and her mom went to the garden every day. They pulled up weeds and raked the soil until their muscles were sore. Then they planted vegetable seeds.
- All of the gardeners shared seeds, tools, and advice with each other.
- One day Mrs. Katz asked, "Would you like some pepper seeds?"
- Luz thanked Mrs. Katz and gave her some lettuce seeds.



The gardeners worked on their gardens all summer. They watered the plants and gave them special plant food to help them grow big. They cut off the tough vines. And they pulled up more weeds. There were always more weeds!



Luz and her mom saw their new friends at the garden almost every day. Everyone told stories and jokes while they worked. All the garden plots were full of vegetables.



In the fall, Mr. Simpson told Luz and Luz's mom about a community potluck dinner. He explained, "Everyone will bring something made from their garden vegetables. I hope you will join us."

"We would love to come," said Mom.

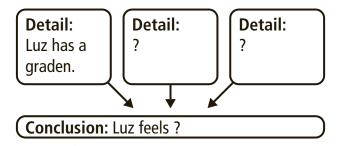


- Luz and her mom made a pizza for the dinner. They topped it with vegetables from their garden—juicy tomatoes, green peppers, and wrinkled onions.
- The other gardeners all brought tasty food too. Everyone ate, and talked, and had a good time.
- Luz and her mom couldn't wait to plant a garden next year!



Responding

TARGET SKILL Conclusions How do you think Luz feels at the end of the story? How do you know? Copy the chart below, and write details from the story.



Write About It

Text to Self Luz and her mom belong to a community garden. Use a few sentences to write a summary paragraph. Explain what it means to belong to a community garden. Then write if you would, or would not, like to belong to a community garden.

TARGET VOCABULARY

blooming scent

muscles shovels

nodded tough

plain wrinkled

- TARGET SKILL Conclusions Use details to figure out more about the text.
 - TARGET STRATEGY Analyze/Evaluate

 Tell how you feel about the text, and why.
- **GENRE Realistic fiction** is a story that could happen in real life.

Level: J

DRA: 18

Genre:

Realistic Fiction

Strategy:

Analyze/Evaluate

Skill:

Conclusions

Word Count: 419



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN Online Leveled Books





