Rights and Rules

Read how ideas from the colonies connect to life today.

SS24.2.1 "Explain how rights and responsibilities for citizens are part of the American system of government. 1a Describe the reasons for the settlement of the American colonies..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two reasons people started colonies, circle one idea from the Declaration of Independence, and write 1 by a citizen's right and 2 by a citizen's responsibility.

From Colonies to Communities

1. Long ago, people came from Europe to start colonies in North America. Some wanted land to farm or work to earn money. Others wanted to worship in their own way. The land was already home to Native peoples.

2. Years later, leaders of the colonies wrote the Declaration of Independence. It says people are created equal and have rights, including life and liberty. It says government should protect those rights. The colonies chose to become independent from Britain.

3. After independence, Americans wrote the Constitution. It sets rules for the government and begins with "We the People." Today, citizens have rights, such as speaking their ideas. They also have responsibilities, such as following laws and helping their communities.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did some people settle in the colonies? Give two reasons.

2. What does the Declaration of Independence say about people's rights and the government's job?

3. What does the Constitution do, and what is one responsibility citizens have today?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your town is making rules for a new playground. Write two sentences: tell what right people should have there, then explain a responsibility that helps protect that right.

ANSWER KEY

Rights and Rules

GRADE 2 · SS24.2.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two reasons people started colonies, circle one idea from the Declaration of Independence, and write 1 by a citizen's right and 2 by a citizen's responsibility. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did some people settle in the colonies? Give two reasons.	**Some wanted land to farm or work to earn money. Others wanted to worship in their own way.**
2	What does the Declaration of Independence say about people's rights and the government's job?	**People are created equal and have rights, including life and liberty. The government should protect those rights.**
3	What does the Constitution do, and what is one responsibility citizens have today?	**The Constitution sets rules for the government. Citizens have a responsibility to follow laws or help their communities.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Everyone should have a fair chance to use the playground. People should take turns on the swings so others get a chance too.

Accept either reason for settling named in the passage, and accept either citizen responsibility named there. For Your Turn, look for a playground right and a responsibility that helps others enjoy that right.