

Highest Law

Read how the Constitution guides all other laws.

SS.2.CG.3.1 "Identify the Constitution of the United States as the supreme law of the land."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the sentence that tells what supreme means. Underline the sentence that tells what other laws must do, so you can find why the Constitution is the highest law.

Rules for the Whole Country

- ① Imagine a town has rules for parks, schools, and streets. Our country also has rules. The most important set of rules is the Constitution of the United States. It helps explain how the national government works and what it may do.
- ② The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. Supreme means it is above all other laws in the United States. A state law, city rule, or government action cannot go against the Constitution. Other laws must follow it.
- ③ People who work in government must obey the Constitution. For example, lawmakers can make laws, but those laws must agree with the Constitution. Courts can check a law when people think it goes against the Constitution. This keeps the Constitution as the country's highest law.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What document is the supreme law of the land?

2 What must a city rule do if it is a law in the United States?

3 Who can check a law when people think it goes against the Constitution?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Make up a city rule about a park or school. Write two sentences. Tell that the rule must follow the Constitution and explain why.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the sentence that tells what supreme means. Underline the sentence that tells what other laws must do, so you can find why the Constitution is the highest law. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What document is the supreme law of the land?	The Constitution of the United States.
2	What must a city rule do if it is a law in the United States?	It must follow the Constitution and cannot go against it.
3	Who can check a law when people think it goes against the Constitution?	Courts can check the law.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our city makes a rule that parks close at sunset. This rule must follow the Constitution because the Constitution is the supreme law of the land.

Accept answers that identify the Constitution of the United States as the highest law. For Your Turn, accept any reasonable city rule if the student clearly says it must follow the Constitution because it is the supreme law.