

Voices Make Change

Read how students take part in improving their community.

SS.3.CG.2 "Civic and Political Participation"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the five complete sentences that tell an action Maple Grove students took to help or share their ideas. Number the underlined sentences 1 through 5 in the order the actions happened.

A Safer Crosswalk

- ① At Maple Grove Elementary, students noticed that the crosswalk near the school needed clearer safety signs. The student council listened to classmates during lunch. Then the council wrote a polite letter to the city transportation office. In the letter, students explained the problem and asked for brighter signs. The principal mailed the letter to the city office the next morning.
- ② Two weeks later, a city staff member visited the school. She thanked the students for sharing their ideas in a respectful way. She said the office would check the crosswalk. The students also invited families to a Saturday cleanup at a nearby park. At the cleanup, they picked up litter and sorted cans and bottles for recycling.
- ③ City workers later added brighter signs and painted fresh lines at the crosswalk. The project showed that young people can notice needs, share ideas, and help their community. Students cannot vote yet, but they can learn about issues and speak respectfully to adults who make decisions. When people listen and work together, they can improve a place they share.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What problem did the students notice near their school?

2 How did the students share their idea with people in the city office?

3 What did the students do at the park cleanup that helped their community?

4 According to the passage, how can students take part in their community before they can vote?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Think of one need at your school or in your neighborhood. Write three sentences: name the need, tell one way students could help, and tell one respectful way to share the idea with an adult who makes decisions.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the five complete sentences that tell an action Maple Grove students took to help or share their ideas. Number the underlined sentences 1 through 5 in the order the actions happened. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem did the students notice near their school?	The crosswalk near the school needed clearer safety signs.
2	How did the students share their idea with people in the city office?	They wrote a polite letter explaining the problem and asking for brighter signs.
3	What did the students do at the park cleanup that helped their community?	They picked up litter and sorted cans and bottles for recycling.
4	According to the passage, how can students take part in their community before they can vote?	They can notice needs, learn about issues, share ideas, help their community, and speak respectfully to adults who make decisions.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school playground has too few shaded places to sit. Students could plant and care for small trees with adult help. We could write a polite letter to the principal asking for more shade.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the students' actions and ways young people can participate. For Part 3, accept any realistic school or neighborhood need with three sentences that include a helpful action and a respectful way to share an idea.