

Living With Water

See how a river shapes the choices people make in a community.

SS.3.G.4 "Human Systems"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each way the river affects people. Underline each action people take because of the river, then write A for adapting or C for changing the environment beside it.

Willow Bend and Its River

- ① In the town of Willow Bend, many families live near a river. The river gives people water for gardens and a place to fish. In spring, heavy rain can make the river rise over its banks. Long ago, some homes were built very close to the water. Floods sometimes covered their yards and roads nearby.
- ② To live safely near the river, the town made changes. Workers built a raised walkway to the school, so children could cross wet ground. Families put rain barrels under roof pipes to collect water for gardens. The town also planted trees along the bank. Tree roots help hold loose soil in place near the water during strong storms.
- ③ People also changed some of their own choices. New houses are built on higher ground, farther from the river. During flood warnings, neighbors share rides to the community center on a hill. The river still shapes where people build, travel, and gather. In turn, people use plans and tools to live with the river more safely.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

What are two ways the river helps people in Willow Bend?

2

How does the raised walkway help children adapt to the river's flooding?

3

What did the town plant along the riverbank, and how does it help the land?

4

How do the locations of new houses and the community center help people deal with flood danger?

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose three natural features or weather conditions that can affect a community. In each row, tell how people respond and decide whether the response is an adaptation or a change to the environment.

NATURAL FEATURE OR WEATHER	HOW IT AFFECTS PEOPLE	PEOPLE'S RESPONSE	ADAPT OR CHANGE?

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each way the river affects people. Underline each action people take because of the river, then write A for adapting or C for changing the environment beside it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two ways the river helps people in Willow Bend?	It gives people water for gardens and a place to fish.
2	How does the raised walkway help children adapt to the river's flooding?	It lets children cross wet ground to get to school.
3	What did the town plant along the riverbank, and how does it help the land?	The town planted trees. Their roots help hold loose soil in place during strong storms.
4	How do the locations of new houses and the community center help people deal with flood danger?	New houses are on higher ground, and the community center is on a hill. These places are safer during floods.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

NATURAL FEATURE OR WEATHER	HOW IT AFFECTS PEOPLE	PEOPLE'S RESPONSE	ADAPT OR CHANGE?
Deep snow	Roads become hard to use.	The town plows the streets.	Change
Hot, sunny weather	Crops need more water.	Farmers water crops early in the morning.	Adapt
A steep hill	Travel uphill is difficult.	Builders make a winding road.	Change

Accept accurate examples of a natural feature or weather condition, its effect on people, and a sensible human response. Accept reasonable labels when the student explains whether people adjusted their behavior or changed the land or built environment.