

Neighbors Take Action

See how citizens and government offices can work together on a community problem.

SS.4.CG.2.1 "Identify and describe how citizens work with local and state governments to solve problems."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every action the citizens took to help solve the problem, including collecting facts and contacting officials. Circle every action a government group or official took in response.

A Safer Walk to School

- ① After a storm, Maya noticed that water covered a crosswalk near her school. Leaves and cups blocked a storm drain. She told four neighbors about the problem. Together, they took photos, counted the blocked drains, and wrote down the days when puddles formed. They wanted a safer walk to school for children and families in their neighborhood.
- ② The neighbors made a short report with their notes and photos. They signed a letter asking the city public works department to clear the drain and place a trash can nearby. At a city council meeting, Maya explained the concern. The council asked the department to check the drain and consider adding a trash can. The neighbors planned to watch for updates.
- ③ Because the drain emptied into a creek, the group also used the state environmental agency's online report form to share their photos. A state water specialist replied with instructions for reporting pollution. The specialist said the agency would review the report and test the creek if needed. The neighbors agreed to keep litter out and report new problems.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What facts did the neighbors collect before they contacted the city government?

2 How did the neighbors work with the city government to solve the drain problem?

3 What did the city council ask the public works department to do?

4 How did the citizens work with the state government, and what did the state specialist say the agency would do?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a community problem that could involve both local and state government. Write three sentences: name evidence citizens would collect, explain how they would work with a local office, and explain how they would work with a state office.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every action the citizens took to help solve the problem, including collecting facts and contacting officials. Circle every action a government group or official took in response. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What facts did the neighbors collect before they contacted the city government?	They took photos, counted blocked drains, and wrote down the days when puddles formed.
2	How did the neighbors work with the city government to solve the drain problem?	They made a report, signed a letter to the city public works department, and spoke at a city council meeting.
3	What did the city council ask the public works department to do?	The council asked the department to check the drain and consider adding a trash can.
4	How did the citizens work with the state government, and what did the state specialist say the agency would do?	The group used the state environmental agency's online form to share photos. The specialist said the agency would review the report and test the creek if needed.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Neighbors see broken glass beside a creek and take photos and note where it is. They send their notes to the city parks department and ask for a cleanup. They use the state environmental agency's report form to share the creek concern and ask what should happen next.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the citizen actions and government responses stated in the passage. For Your Turn, accept reasonable problems that include evidence collection, a local government contact, and a state government contact.