A Path Together

How neighbors and local government solve a problem

2.SS.4.1 "Explore the concept of democracy by understanding the role of citizens and the United States government and connecting it to their role as citizens within their community where people can explore issues..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the park problem, circle two actions people took to help, and put a box around the city council's choice.

A New Path for Maple Park

1. At Maple Park, puddles cover the path after rain. People in the neighborhood want a safe way to reach the swings. They talk about the problem at a park meeting. A child, Ana, tells the group where she saw the deepest puddle.

2. Neighbors look at the path after a storm. Some suggest adding stones. Others suggest a new path on higher ground. Ana draws a picture of her idea. The neighbors share their ideas with the city council, a group in local government.

3. The city council listens to the neighbors. It chooses a new path on higher ground and asks city workers to build it. This is one way people and government make decisions together. The national government makes laws for the whole country.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did the neighbors bring their park ideas to the city council instead of the national government?

2. How did Ana and the neighbors learn about the puddles and think of ways to fix the path?

3. How did the neighbors and the city council each help make the new path happen?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a problem at a place in your community other than Maple Park. In three sentences, tell how people could learn about the problem, share a solution, and work with local government to make a decision.

ANSWER KEY

A Path Together

GRADE 2 · 2.SS.4.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the park problem, circle two actions people took to help, and put a box around the city council's choice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did the neighbors bring their park ideas to the city council instead of the national government?	**The city council is local government and makes the park decision. The national government makes laws for the whole country.**
2	How did Ana and the neighbors learn about the puddles and think of ways to fix the path?	**Ana noticed where the deepest puddle was. Neighbors looked at the path after a storm and suggested stones or a path on higher ground.**
3	How did the neighbors and the city council each help make the new path happen?	**The neighbors shared ideas. The city council chose a path on higher ground and asked city workers to build it.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Trash piles up near the bus stop, so neighbors count how much they see each day. They ask the city council to put a trash can there. The council listens, talks about the idea, and decides whether to add one.

For the marking job, accept any two actions by Ana or the neighbors, such as noticing a puddle, checking the path, suggesting a fix, or sharing ideas. For Your Turn, accept a different community problem with a way to learn about it, a proposed solution, and a decision for local government to make.