Who Handles It?

Read how local and state governments meet different needs.

3.SS.4.3 "Identify and explain the basic functions of local and state governments."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the words that tell a local government job. Circle the words that tell a state government job so you can compare what each government does.

A Rainy Day in Maya's Town

1. After a heavy rain, Maya sees a fallen tree across a street near her home. Her town government sends a crew to clear the street. The town also runs the fire department, which helps people during emergencies. These are local government jobs. Local leaders make choices for the people in their town, so they can respond to nearby needs.

2. On a family trip, Maya's car travels on a state highway. The state government takes care of state highways, even when they pass through many towns. It also makes driving laws that apply across the state. A town cannot set the speed limit for every road in the state. State leaders make decisions that reach people in many different places.

3. Maya's school shows how both levels can help. The state government gives money to public schools and sets learning goals for the state. Maya's local school district runs her school and decides when school buses will pick up students. The state makes plans for schools across the state, while the district handles daily needs close to home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which government clears the fallen tree, and why does that job fit that government?

2. What does the state government do for state highways, and why is this a state job?

3. Name two ways the state government helps public schools. Why are these state jobs?

4. What does Maya's local school district decide, and why is that a local job?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your town wants a new public playground, and bridges on state highways need repairs. In three sentences, name which government should handle each job and explain why each one fits.

ANSWER KEY

Who Handles It?

GRADE 3 · 3.SS.4.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the words that tell a local government job. Circle the words that tell a state government job so you can compare what each government does. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which government clears the fallen tree, and why does that job fit that government?	**The town government clears it because the blocked street is a nearby need.**
2	What does the state government do for state highways, and why is this a state job?	**It takes care of state highways, which pass through many towns.**
3	Name two ways the state government helps public schools. Why are these state jobs?	**It gives schools money and sets learning goals. These decisions help schools across the state.**
4	What does Maya's local school district decide, and why is that a local job?	**It decides when school buses pick up students. That meets a daily need close to home.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The town government should build the playground because it serves people nearby. The state government should repair the bridges because they are on state highways that pass through many towns. Each government handles a job that fits the area it serves.

Accept town or local government for the playground and state government for bridges on state highways. Explanations should connect local jobs to nearby needs and state jobs to needs across towns.