Park Plans in Action

How neighbors help their community and local government

3.SS.4.7 "Identify ways children and adults can participate in their community and/or local governments."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline ways children took part and circle ways adults took part; put a star beside one action that helped the town council make a decision.

A Safer Park for Everyone

1. At Maple Street Park, the swings were broken, and the path flooded after rain. Third graders wanted the park to be safer. They asked neighbors what needed fixing and wrote down the answers. Then the children sent a letter with their ideas to the town council. The council makes decisions about some public places, including town parks. Sharing ideas helps leaders learn what people need.

2. At the next council meeting, adults spoke about the park. One parent told council members that puddles covered the path. Another adult brought a list of neighbors who wanted the swings fixed. Council members listened before deciding how to spend money on park repairs. Adults who are allowed to vote can also choose council members during town elections. Voting helps choose the people who make local decisions.

3. The children did not have to wait for repairs to help. They made signs asking visitors to put trash in bins and helped pick up litter with their teachers. Adults from the neighborhood organized a park cleanup and brought bags and gloves. Later, town workers fixed the swings and the path. The park became safer because people shared ideas with local leaders and took care of a place everyone used.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What are two things the children did to help the town council learn about the park?

2. How did two adults share information with the council before it decided about repairs?

3. What can adults who are allowed to vote do to help choose local leaders?

4. Name one way children and one way adults helped care for the park.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a community need that is not about the park. In three sentences, name the need, describe one action a child could take and one action an adult could take, and tell how the actions could help.

ANSWER KEY

Park Plans in Action

GRADE 3 · 3.SS.4.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline ways children took part and circle ways adults took part; put a star beside one action that helped the town council make a decision. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two things the children did to help the town council learn about the park?	**They asked neighbors what needed fixing and sent their ideas to the council in a letter.**
2	How did two adults share information with the council before it decided about repairs?	**One parent spoke about puddles on the path. Another adult brought a list of neighbors who wanted the swings fixed.**
3	What can adults who are allowed to vote do to help choose local leaders?	**They can vote for council members in town elections.**
4	Name one way children and one way adults helped care for the park.	**Children picked up litter. Adults organized a park cleanup.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Cars move too fast near our school crossing. A child could count cars that do not stop and share the count with the school. An adult could ask the town council to consider a crossing sign, which could help people cross safely.

Accept other passage-supported actions for questions 1, 2, and 4. For Your Turn, look for a need other than the park and a possible action for both a child and an adult.