Who Does What?

Law-making roles in federal and tribal governments

5.SS.4.1 "Identify the people and groups who make, apply, and enforce laws within federal and tribal governments."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the people or groups who make laws, circle those who apply laws in court, and write E beside those who enforce laws. Look for all three jobs in both governments.

Two Trails, Two Governments

1. At a national park, Maya spots a sign about protecting nesting birds. The United States Congress makes federal laws, including laws that protect wildlife. Federal park rangers help enforce federal laws in the park. They watch for harm to protected birds and respond when someone breaks a law. If a case about a federal law goes to federal court, a federal judge applies that law to the facts.

2. Down the road, Maya visits a tribal nation's nature trail. Tribal nations are governments with the power to make their own laws. In this nation, the tribal council makes a law about keeping the trail clean. Tribal police officers enforce tribal laws by checking for violations. If a case involving that trail law reaches the nation's tribal court, a tribal judge applies the law to the facts.

3. Making a law, applying it to a case, and enforcing it are different jobs. Maya imagines someone leaving trash on the tribal trail. A police officer might respond, but the officer does not decide the case in court. A tribal judge does that by using the law and the facts. On the federal side, park rangers respond in the park, while federal judges decide cases in federal court.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who makes federal laws that protect wildlife, and who helps enforce them in the national park?

2. Who applies a federal law to the facts if a case goes to federal court?

3. Who makes the tribal trail law, and who enforces tribal laws on the trail?

4. Who applies the tribal trail law to the facts in court? Why is that not the tribal police officer's job?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a new federal law protects a rare plant in a national park, and a new tribal law protects a spring on tribal land. In four sentences, name who makes, applies in court, and enforces each law, and describe one action each enforcer could take.

ANSWER KEY

Who Does What?

GRADE 5 · 5.SS.4.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the people or groups who make laws, circle those who apply laws in court, and write E beside those who enforce laws. Look for all three jobs in both governments. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who makes federal laws that protect wildlife, and who helps enforce them in the national park?	**Congress makes federal laws. Federal park rangers help enforce them in the park.**
2	Who applies a federal law to the facts if a case goes to federal court?	**A federal judge.**
3	Who makes the tribal trail law, and who enforces tribal laws on the trail?	**The tribal council makes the trail law. Tribal police officers enforce tribal laws.**
4	Who applies the tribal trail law to the facts in court? Why is that not the tribal police officer's job?	**A tribal judge applies the law in court. A tribal police officer enforces the law but does not decide the case in court.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Congress makes the federal law protecting the rare plant, and federal park rangers enforce it by stopping visitors who pick the plants. A federal judge applies that law to the facts if a case reaches federal court. The tribal council makes the law protecting the spring, and tribal police officers enforce it by responding when someone dumps trash nearby. A tribal judge applies that law to the facts if a case reaches tribal court.

Accept answers that correctly distinguish making laws, applying laws in court, and enforcing laws in each government. For Your Turn, accept other plausible enforcement actions that fit the new laws.