Who Sets the Rules?

Compare three kinds of land and who manages them.

5.SS.4.7 "Explain the difference between reservations, State public lands, and Federal public lands."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each of the three land types in the passage, then underline who makes decisions or manages each one. Use your marks to compare them.

Three Signs, Three Sets of Rules

1. On a weekend trip, Maya passes signs for a tribal reservation, a state park, and a national forest. Each sign points to land with its own rules. The word public on a sign does not mean every place has the same government in charge. Maya wants to know who makes decisions about each place before she chooses where to hike.

2. At the reservation, a tribal nation has its own government and makes many decisions about the land and community. The United States holds much reservation land in trust for tribes or tribal members. A reservation is not a state park or a national forest, and it is not automatically open for anyone to explore. Visitors must follow the tribe's rules and check which areas they may enter.

3. At the state park, the state government manages the land for visitors and wildlife. At the national forest, the federal government manages the land through the U.S. Forest Service. Both are public lands, but state and federal rules can differ. For example, one park may allow camping in certain areas, while another may not. Maya checks the rules for each place instead of assuming they match.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How is a reservation different from a state park in who makes decisions about the land?

2. The United States holds much reservation land in trust. How is a reservation still different from a national forest?

3. How are a state park and a national forest alike, and how are they different?

4. Why should Maya check the rules before visiting each of the three places?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A family wants to photograph a cultural site on a reservation, hike in a state park, and camp in a national forest. Write three sentences, one for each place. In each sentence, name who sets the rules and a question the family should ask before the activity.

ANSWER KEY

Who Sets the Rules?

GRADE 5 · 5.SS.4.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each of the three land types in the passage, then underline who makes decisions or manages each one. Use your marks to compare them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How is a reservation different from a state park in who makes decisions about the land?	**A tribal government makes many decisions about its reservation, while the state government manages a state park.**
2	The United States holds much reservation land in trust. How is a reservation still different from a national forest?	**The tribal government makes many decisions about the reservation, while the federal government manages a national forest through the U.S. Forest Service.**
3	How are a state park and a national forest alike, and how are they different?	**Both are public lands. A state government manages a state park, while the federal government manages a national forest.**
4	Why should Maya check the rules before visiting each of the three places?	**Different governments set rules for the places. A reservation may limit where visitors can enter, and rules for state and federal public lands can differ.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Before photographing a cultural site on the reservation, the family should ask the tribal government whether they may enter and take pictures because the tribe sets rules there. Before hiking in the state park, they should ask state park staff which trails are open because the state manages that land. Before camping in the national forest, they should ask the U.S. Forest Service where camping is allowed because the federal government manages that land.

Accept answers that distinguish tribal decision-making from state and federal management. Students may name park staff or the U.S. Forest Service as the people to ask about rules.