Promises in Action

What the pledge means and how people take part

2.C.5 "Discuss and explain the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance and explore ways citizens affirm their citizenship, including voting, volunteering, or participating in community activities."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what people promise in the pledge, circle what liberty and justice mean, and number two actions people take as citizens to connect the pledge's words with actions.

Words and Actions

1. At the school flagpole, Maya hears the Pledge of Allegiance. A pledge is a promise. When people say the pledge, they promise to be loyal to the United States and its flag. People may choose whether to say it.

2. Maya wonders about the words "liberty and justice for all." Liberty means freedom. Justice means people should be treated fairly. The pledge speaks of these hopes for everyone in our country, even though people still have work to do to make them real.

3. On Saturday, Maya and her dad pick up trash at the park with their neighbors. This is volunteering, giving time to help. Her dad also votes to help choose leaders. These actions help people take part in their community and country.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What promise do people make when they say the pledge?

2. What do "liberty and justice for all" mean in the passage?

3. How do Maya and her dad take part in their community and country?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a way you could help your school or neighborhood that Maya did not do. Write two sentences: tell what you would do, then explain how it shows care for your community and connects to liberty or justice for all.

ANSWER KEY

Promises in Action

GRADE 2 · 2.C.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what people promise in the pledge, circle what liberty and justice mean, and number two actions people take as citizens to connect the pledge's words with actions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What promise do people make when they say the pledge?	**They promise to be loyal to the United States and its flag.**
2	What do "liberty and justice for all" mean in the passage?	**Liberty means freedom, and justice means people should be treated fairly.**
3	How do Maya and her dad take part in their community and country?	**They volunteer by picking up trash at the park. Maya's dad also votes to help choose leaders.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would invite a new student to join our game at recess. This shows care for my school and supports justice by giving everyone a fair chance to play.

For Part 3, accept a different school or neighborhood action if the student explains how it shows care and connects it to freedom or fair treatment. Saying the pledge is a choice, not a requirement of citizenship.