

# Citizens in Action

Read how responsibilities help New York communities work.

**4.4e** "Citizens of the State of New York have responsibilities that help their nation, their state, and their local communities function. Some responsibilities are stated in laws."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline three actions citizens can take to help others. Circle the adult responsibility in paragraph 3 that the passage says is stated in law.

### Shared Responsibilities

- ① On a busy morning in Albany, people use streets, buses, and sidewalks. These shared places work best when citizens follow rules. A child walking to school waits for the walk signal and uses a crosswalk. A driver stops at a red light. Traffic safety laws protect people in New York communities and across the nation every day.
- ② At school, students can help keep others safe. If you see bullying, threats, or something unsafe, tell a trusted adult right away. This is often called "see something, say something." New York laws and school rules support safe learning spaces. Speaking up is a responsible action because adults can investigate, help students, and contact emergency workers when needed.
- ③ As citizens grow up, they can take other responsibilities. Eligible adults can learn about issues before voting for leaders. Voting helps people choose representatives for local, state, and national government. An adult who receives a jury summons must respond and may be required to serve. Jury service is a responsibility stated in law and helps courts make fair decisions.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

1 Name one action from paragraph 1 that helps people follow traffic safety laws.

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2 What should you do if you see bullying, a threat, or something unsafe?

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3 How does voting help local, state, and national government?

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4 Which adult responsibility does the passage say is stated in law, and how does it help?

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## 3 YOUR TURN \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Imagine you are at a crowded community festival. Write three sentences that include one action that follows a law, one action that shows active citizenship, and how both actions help people.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline three actions citizens can take to help others. Circle the adult responsibility in paragraph 3 that the passage says is stated in law. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                | ANSWER                                                                                       |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Name one action from paragraph 1 that helps people follow traffic safety laws.          | <b>Waiting for the walk signal and using a crosswalk, or stopping at a red light.</b>        |
| 2 | What should you do if you see bullying, a threat, or something unsafe?                  | <b>Tell a trusted adult right away.</b>                                                      |
| 3 | How does voting help local, state, and national government?                             | <b>Voting helps people choose representatives for local, state, and national government.</b> |
| 4 | Which adult responsibility does the passage say is stated in law, and how does it help? | <b>Jury service is stated in law. It helps courts make fair decisions.</b>                   |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

At a crowded community festival, I will wait for the walk signal before crossing the street. I will also tell an event worker if I see a safety problem. Following traffic law protects people, and speaking up helps adults respond to danger.

Accept equivalent passage-based actions and explanations. For the open response, accept a reasonable lawful action, an active citizenship action, and a clear explanation of how both help the community.