Who Helps Decide?

Three levels of government and ways to take part

2.P.2.1.B "Describe the basic structure of government at the local, state, and Tribal levels, including the importance of citizen participation"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline who leads and who makes rules or laws at each level. Circle one way people can take part in each paragraph.

People and Their Governments

1. At a city meeting, Maya asks for a safer crosswalk. A city council makes rules for the city, and a mayor helps lead it. People can speak at council meetings to share what their neighborhood needs.

2. At the state level, lawmakers in the state legislature make laws for the whole state. A governor leads the state government. Families can write to their lawmakers about a problem, such as keeping rivers clean.

3. Tribal Nations have their own governments. Their leaders and ways of making laws can differ. In the Cherokee Nation, an elected council makes laws, and a principal chief leads the government. Cherokee citizens can vote for their leaders.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What do the mayor and city council each do? How can people take part?

2. What do the governor and state legislature each do? How can families take part?

3. In the Cherokee Nation, what do the principal chief and council each do? How can citizens take part?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a problem in your city, state, or Tribal Nation that is not in the reading. Write two sentences: tell the problem and which leader or group could help, then tell how people could take part.

ANSWER KEY

Who Helps Decide?

GRADE 2 · 2.P.2.1.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline who leads and who makes rules or laws at each level. Circle one way people can take part in each paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What do the mayor and city council each do? How can people take part?	**The mayor helps lead the city, and the city council makes city rules. People can speak at council meetings.**
2	What do the governor and state legislature each do? How can families take part?	**The governor leads the state government, and the legislature makes state laws. Families can write to lawmakers.**
3	In the Cherokee Nation, what do the principal chief and council each do? How can citizens take part?	**The principal chief leads the government, and the council makes laws. Cherokee citizens can vote for their leaders.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our city's park needs a new drinking fountain, so the city council could help. People could speak at a council meeting to ask for one.

Accept a new problem at any one of the three levels if the named leader or group and the way people take part fit that level. Tribal government structures vary, so accept an accurate example from another named Tribal Nation.