A Park for All

How neighbors and elected leaders make a local law

2.P.2 "Use interdisciplinary tools to acquire, apply, and evaluate content understanding of the four strands of social studies. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of government, the benefits of democratic systems..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the problem at the park and circle one way neighbors took part. Put a 1 beside what the council did first and a 2 beside what it did next.

A New Rule at Cedar Park

1. At Cedar Park, loose dogs ran across the path. Some children felt afraid to ride their bikes there. Neighbors wanted a way for people and dogs to share the park safely. They asked the town council to talk about a leash law.

2. At a public meeting, neighbors told the council what they saw. One neighbor said dogs needed room to play. Another said leashes would keep walkers safe. The council members had been elected by town voters. They listened to both sides.

3. The council voted to make a local law: dogs must be on leashes at Cedar Park. The town put up signs about the law. Now people can bring dogs, but they must follow the law. Park paths are safer for everyone.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did neighbors ask for a leash law?

2. How did neighbors take part before the council voted?

3. What two things did the elected council do?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a different problem in a shared place in your community. Write three sentences: name the problem and suggest a fair local rule, tell how neighbors could share their views, and explain how the rule would help.

ANSWER KEY

A Park for All

GRADE 2 · 2.P.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the problem at the park and circle one way neighbors took part. Put a 1 beside what the council did first and a 2 beside what it did next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did neighbors ask for a leash law?	**Loose dogs ran across the path, and some children felt afraid to ride their bikes.**
2	How did neighbors take part before the council voted?	**They told the council what they saw at a public meeting.**
3	What two things did the elected council do?	**The council listened to both sides, then voted to make a local leash law.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At our playground, litter covers the ground, so a rule could tell visitors to put trash in bins. Neighbors could share their ideas at a town meeting. This rule would keep the playground clean for everyone.

For the marking job, accept any clear mark on the loose dogs or children's fear as the problem. Council actions should be numbered in order: listening, then voting.