Who Makes the Rules?

Follow a law from a vote to action.

3.C.1.1.A "Explain how representatives of the people make and carry out laws in our communities, state, and nation."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the people who make laws and circle the people or groups who help carry them out at the town, state, and national levels.

From Willow Creek to the Nation

1. At Willow Creek Park, Maya sees a snack wrapper near the swings. People in her town elect council members to speak for them. The council hears neighbors ask for a cleaner park. Members vote for a town law that says people may not litter in public parks. The elected mayor helps carry out the law. Town workers post signs, and park officers ask visitors to follow the rule.

2. Rain can wash trash from the park into Willow Creek. People across the state elect lawmakers to a state legislature. They vote on state laws, including a law that stops people from dumping waste into rivers. The governor, whom voters also elect, helps carry out state laws. The governor directs a state agency to check rivers. Agency workers can report dumping and take steps to stop it.

3. Willow Creek joins a river that crosses state lines. People in each state elect members of Congress to make laws for the whole nation. Congress has passed laws that limit water pollution, including the Clean Water Act. Voters also help choose the president, who leads federal agencies that carry out national laws. An agency can check whether a company is putting too much pollution into a river and require it to stop.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What law does the town council make, and how does the mayor help carry it out?

2. How do state lawmakers and the governor each help stop waste from being dumped into rivers?

3. How do Congress and the president each help limit water pollution?

4. How does the state law reach farther than the town park law, and who makes each law?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine people want safer bike rides on your town's streets. Write three sentences: name a law the elected town council could make, explain how the mayor could help carry it out, and tell how their jobs differ.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.C.1.1.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the people who make laws and circle the people or groups who help carry them out at the town, state, and national levels. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What law does the town council make, and how does the mayor help carry it out?	**The council makes a law against littering in public parks. The mayor helps carry it out through town workers who post signs and park officers who ask visitors to follow it.**
2	How do state lawmakers and the governor each help stop waste from being dumped into rivers?	**State lawmakers vote on a law against dumping waste into rivers. The governor directs a state agency to check rivers.**
3	How do Congress and the president each help limit water pollution?	**Congress makes national laws that limit water pollution. The president leads federal agencies that carry out those laws.**
4	How does the state law reach farther than the town park law, and who makes each law?	**State lawmakers make a law about dumping in rivers across the state. Town council members make a law about littering in the town's public parks.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The town council could pass a law that makes drivers slow down near busy bike paths. The mayor could have town workers put up speed signs and ask officers to check that drivers obey the law. Council members make the law, while the mayor helps carry it out.

Accept other reasonable town laws for safer biking if the response gives the council the job of making the law and the mayor the job of helping carry it out.