Changing Oklahoma

Weather, water, and the choices communities make

3.C.2.4 "Examine how Oklahomans continue to adapt and modify their environments to meet their needs. Summarize how weather events, such as floods and tornadoes, impact the people and economy of Oklahoma..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one effect of a flood and one effect of a tornado on people or work, then circle one way people change the land and one way they save a resource.

Living With Weather and Water

1. When a hard rain falls in Oklahoma, a river can rise over its banks. Floodwater may cover roads and enter homes. Families might leave until it is safe to return. Shops may close and lose sales. A tornado can tear roofs from buildings and damage power lines. Repairs cost money, and workers may miss days of work. Weather can change both daily life and the local economy.

2. People also change the land and water to meet their needs. In northeastern Oklahoma, Pensacola Dam holds back water to form Grand Lake. The dam makes electricity from moving water. Families visit the lake to boat and fish, and visitors buy food and supplies from nearby businesses. Building the dam changed the river area. It created new places for fun and new ways to earn money.

3. Water can be scarce when little rain falls. A town may ask people to use less water so there is enough for everyone. After many rainy days, a river may have a surplus of water. If water rises over its banks, flooding can follow. People cannot stop all storms, but they can save resources. Recycling paper and cans means fewer new materials are needed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How can a flood affect both families and shops?

2. How did building Pensacola Dam create new ways for people to have fun and earn money?

3. How could a tornado affect a worker and the local economy?

4. How do too little rain and many rainy days create different problems for a town?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine an Oklahoma town with dry weeks and strong storms. In three sentences, describe two changes the town could make that are not named in the passage, explain how each meets a need, and tell how one could help the town spend less money or support local businesses.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.C.2.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one effect of a flood and one effect of a tornado on people or work, then circle one way people change the land and one way they save a resource. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How can a flood affect both families and shops?	**Families may have to leave their homes, and shops may close and lose sales.**
2	How did building Pensacola Dam create new ways for people to have fun and earn money?	**It formed Grand Lake, where people can boat and fish. Visitors buy food and supplies from nearby businesses.**
3	How could a tornado affect a worker and the local economy?	**A worker may miss work after a tornado damages buildings or power lines, and repairs cost money.**
4	How do too little rain and many rainy days create different problems for a town?	**Too little rain can make water scarce. Many rainy days can raise a river until it floods.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The town could build a storm shelter near the shops so workers and customers have a safe place during a tornado warning. It could put rain barrels by the library to save roof water for plants during dry weeks. Using that water for plants could lower the town's water bill.

Accept other passage-based effects in the short answers. For Your Turn, accept two realistic changes not named in the passage if each meets a stated need and one has a clear money or business connection.