River Town Stories

How a city began and grew

3.C.3.2.F "Identify when and under what circumstances the student's community was founded and describe the different groups of people who have influenced its growth and development."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the year Albuquerque was founded and why settlers started the town. Circle groups of people, then draw a line from each group to something it did.

Albuquerque: Before and After 1706

1. Long before Albuquerque was founded, Pueblo people lived in villages near the Rio Grande. They grew corn using water from the river and made pottery. In 1706, Spain ruled this part of North America. Spanish settlers founded a town beside the river so families could farm and live together. They built homes around a central plaza, or open square.

2. The new town was called Albuquerque. Spanish settlers built a church near the plaza, and families dug ditches to bring river water to their fields. Pueblo people continued living in the region. Over time, Pueblo and Spanish traditions both helped shape local food, buildings, and celebrations. The town grew slowly because travel across the dry land was hard.

3. In 1880, the railroad reached Albuquerque. A new part of town grew near the tracks, away from the old plaza. Railroad workers helped lay and run the tracks, while shopkeepers sold goods to travelers and neighbors. People came from different places to work and open businesses. Today, the city has both the old plaza area and busy streets shaped by later growth.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. When was Albuquerque founded, and why did Spanish settlers start a town beside the river?

2. How had Pueblo people shaped the area before Albuquerque was founded?

3. How did Spanish settlers shape the new town?

4. After the railroad arrived, how did railroad workers and shopkeepers each help Albuquerque grow?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan two stops for a short tour of Albuquerque. In four sentences, name a place or feature at each stop, connect each one to a different group of people, and explain why the 1706 founding date is only part of the city's story.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.C.3.2.F

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the year Albuquerque was founded and why settlers started the town. Circle groups of people, then draw a line from each group to something it did. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	When was Albuquerque founded, and why did Spanish settlers start a town beside the river?	**Spanish settlers founded the town in 1706 so families could farm and live together near the river.**
2	How had Pueblo people shaped the area before Albuquerque was founded?	**They lived in nearby villages, grew corn using river water, and made pottery.**
3	How did Spanish settlers shape the new town?	**They built homes around a plaza and a church nearby, and families dug ditches to water fields.**
4	After the railroad arrived, how did railroad workers and shopkeepers each help Albuquerque grow?	**Railroad workers laid and ran the tracks. Shopkeepers sold goods to travelers and neighbors.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our first stop is the river, where Pueblo people grew corn long before Albuquerque was founded. Our second stop is the old plaza, where Spanish settlers built a town in 1706 so families could farm and live together. Both groups helped shape this place. The founding date tells when the Spanish town began, but it does not tell when people first lived here.

Accept accurate places or features from the passage and clear links to two different groups. The final explanation should show that Pueblo people lived in the area before the Spanish town was founded.