Neighbors Take Action

Read about problems and the people working to solve them.

3.P.1.1.C "Describe a range of local and state problems and how communities and local governments are trying to address them."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each problem. Circle the actions people or governments take to address it.

Three Problems, Many Helpers

1. After heavy rain in the town of Pine Bend, water sometimes covers Oak Street. Leaves can block the storm drains that carry rainwater away. Neighbors report blocked drains to the town office. Town workers clear the leaves so water can flow again. A neighborhood group also picks up litter before it can wash into the drains on rainy days.

2. On hot days, the play area at Pine Bend Park has little shade. The metal benches get too hot for people to use. Families ask the town council for help. The council pays to plant trees near the benches. A local garden club waters the young trees. As the trees grow, their shade can make the benches cooler.

3. Across the state, a long dry spell leaves less water in rivers and lakes. Some towns worry they may not have enough water for everyone. The state water office gives towns money to fix leaking water pipes. In Pine Bend, town workers fix leaks they find. Families save water at home by turning off the tap while brushing their teeth.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What problem happens on Oak Street? Describe one way neighbors help and one way town workers help.

2. What problem do people face at Pine Bend Park? How do the town council and garden club address it?

3. What problem affects the state? What do families do at home to help?

4. How do the state water office and Pine Bend workers each help towns save water?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a town or state problem that is different from the ones in the passage. In three sentences, describe the problem, how community members could help, and how a local or state government could help.

ANSWER KEY

Neighbors Take Action

GRADE 3 · 3.P.1.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each problem. Circle the actions people or governments take to address it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What problem happens on Oak Street? Describe one way neighbors help and one way town workers help.	**Rainwater covers Oak Street when drains are blocked. Neighbors report blocked drains, and town workers clear the leaves.**
2	What problem do people face at Pine Bend Park? How do the town council and garden club address it?	**The benches get too hot because there is little shade. The council pays to plant trees, and the garden club waters them.**
3	What problem affects the state? What do families do at home to help?	**A long dry spell leaves less water in rivers and lakes. Families turn off the tap while brushing their teeth.**
4	How do the state water office and Pine Bend workers each help towns save water?	**The state water office gives towns money to fix leaking pipes. Pine Bend workers fix leaks they find.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In my town, a cracked sidewalk makes it hard to walk safely. Neighbors could tell the town where the cracks are. Town workers could repair the sidewalk.

For Part 3, accept a different, plausible town or state problem with one relevant community action and one relevant government action. Responses should have three sentences.