Neighbors Pitch In

Three ways citizens can improve a shared park

4.C.1.3.D "Explain how citizens can contribute to the betterment of their communities through public service, charitable donations, and volunteerism."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action by each of the three named neighbors. Circle how each action helps the park or its visitors.

A Better Maple Park

1. When the only path through Maple Park became muddy, neighbors asked the town to make it easier to use. Ms. Chen, a local resident, joined the town's park advisory board. At a public meeting, she shared neighbors' ideas for a firm path that wheelchairs and strollers could use. Her public service helped town leaders understand what the park needed.

2. Parks also need supplies. A neighborhood group collected charitable donations for new trash grabbers and sturdy gloves. Mr. Ruiz gave five dollars instead of buying the tools himself. The group used donated money to buy supplies for cleanup days. His gift helped more people work safely, even though he could not come to a cleanup.

3. On Saturday, volunteers met at the park. They used the new supplies to pick up litter along the path and put it in trash bags. A volunteer named Nia also welcomed families and showed them where to place full bags. Giving her time made the park cleaner and easier for everyone to enjoy. No one paid Nia for this work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Ms. Chen's public service help town leaders plan for park visitors?

2. How did Mr. Ruiz's donation help even though he missed the cleanup?

3. How did Nia's volunteer work make the park better for visitors?

4. How did Ms. Chen and Nia help the park in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a place in your community that could be better. In three or four sentences, name the place and describe one public service action, one charitable donation, and one volunteer action, explaining how each could help.

ANSWER KEY

Neighbors Pitch In

GRADE 4 · 4.C.1.3.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one action by each of the three named neighbors. Circle how each action helps the park or its visitors. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Ms. Chen's public service help town leaders plan for park visitors?	**She shared neighbors' ideas for a path that wheelchairs and strollers could use, helping leaders understand what the park needed.**
2	How did Mr. Ruiz's donation help even though he missed the cleanup?	**His money helped buy gloves and trash grabbers so more people could work safely.**
3	How did Nia's volunteer work make the park better for visitors?	**She helped pick up litter and guided families with full bags, making the park cleaner and easier to enjoy.**
4	How did Ms. Chen and Nia help the park in different ways?	**Ms. Chen helped town leaders understand what visitors needed, while Nia gave her time to clean the park.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our library needs more books and a tidy entrance. A resident could serve on the library board and ask for books about local animals, helping leaders choose useful books. Someone could donate money to buy those books, giving readers more choices. A volunteer could pick up litter outside so visitors have a clean entrance.

Accept other passage-based explanations that connect each person's action to a benefit. For Your Turn, look for a clear benefit tied to each of the three different kinds of contribution.