Neighbors Take Care

Read how everyday choices help protect shared resources.

4.C.1.3.E "Summarize ways in which citizens are stewards of the nation's environment by examining how natural resources can be managed wisely (e.g., recycling and anti-littering efforts, water conservation, development of renewable energy sources)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action citizens took in each paragraph. Circle the natural resource each action helps them use or protect.

A Saturday at Willow Creek

1. On Saturday, neighbors gathered beside Willow Creek after a windy week. Snack wrappers lay near the bank, where rain could wash them into the water. Volunteers picked up the litter before it reached the creek. They also sorted empty cans for recycling. Recycling turns used materials into new products, so people need fewer new raw materials. The neighbors were caring for both the creek and the resources used to make cans.

2. Across the street, families noticed that sprinklers were spraying the sidewalk. They changed the sprinkler heads so the water reached only the grass. At home, some neighbors fixed dripping faucets. Clean water takes work to collect and deliver, even where rain falls often. By stopping leaks and keeping water off the sidewalk, these families used less water while still meeting their needs.

3. The neighborhood center made another choice: it put solar panels on its roof. Sunlight is a renewable energy source, unlike the fuels burned at many power plants. The panels turn sunlight into electricity without burning fuel while they work. Neighbors held a fundraiser to help pay for the project. Cleaning the creek, saving water, and choosing solar power are different ways citizens can care for shared resources.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Summarize how the volunteers cared for both the creek and the materials used to make cans.

2. How did the families use water wisely while still meeting their needs?

3. Summarize why the neighborhood center's solar panels are a wise way to use resources.

4. How do the neighbors' choices show three different ways citizens can care for shared resources?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan for a weekend sports day on your school field. In four sentences, describe two actions not named in the passage, explain how each helps manage a different natural resource, and tell how classmates will work together.

ANSWER KEY

Neighbors Take Care

GRADE 4 · 4.C.1.3.E

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one action citizens took in each paragraph. Circle the natural resource each action helps them use or protect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Summarize how the volunteers cared for both the creek and the materials used to make cans.	**They picked up litter before it reached the creek and recycled cans so fewer new raw materials would be needed.**
2	How did the families use water wisely while still meeting their needs?	**They adjusted sprinklers to water only the grass and fixed dripping faucets, reducing wasted water.**
3	Summarize why the neighborhood center's solar panels are a wise way to use resources.	**The panels use renewable sunlight to make electricity without burning fuel while they work.**
4	How do the neighbors' choices show three different ways citizens can care for shared resources?	**They protect the creek by removing litter, save water by stopping waste, and use renewable sunlight to make electricity.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Use washable cups at the water station so we use less paper made from trees. Set out small pitchers so players pour only the drinking water they need. Classmates can take turns washing the cups and refilling the pitchers. Our plan saves trees and water during sports day.

For the marking job, accept any action and matching resource in each paragraph, such as picking up litter and the creek, fixing faucets and water, or using solar panels and sunlight. For the open task, look for four sentences with two new, workable actions that address different resources and include a way classmates will cooperate.