Across the Water

Migration, settlement, and culture between Puerto Rico and Florida

6.C.3 "Identify the characteristics, distribution, and demographic patterns of human populations and systems of the Western Hemisphere. Identify on a political map the major countries and population centers of each region, describing urban..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two reasons people left Puerto Rico and circle two reasons they might choose Orlando. Write 1 beside a way a family passes on culture and 2 beside a way culture spreads to neighbors.

A New Home in Florida

1. In September 2017, Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico, a Caribbean island and U.S. territory. Winds and flooding damaged homes, roads, and the electric grid. Many people lost power for months. Some families left because daily life had become difficult. Others stayed to rebuild. A family that moved to Orlando, Florida, could travel by plane across the sea. They did not need to cross a land border. Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens, so moving to Florida is a move within the United States, not immigration to another country.

2. Why choose Orlando? Some people already had relatives there who could offer a place to stay. Jobs and schools could also draw families to the area. These are pull factors, while storm damage and power loss are push factors. Orlando is an urban center surrounded by suburbs, where many people live and travel into the city for work. Families might settle near relatives in a suburb or in the city itself. Where they live can depend on housing costs, jobs, and the support they can find.

3. Puerto Rican culture reflects Indigenous Taíno, African, and Spanish influences. Spanish and English are spoken on the island, though Spanish is used most widely. In Florida, a family might teach children songs they learned from older relatives and cook familiar dishes together. These activities can help children feel connected to Puerto Rico even after moving. When neighbors hear the music or try the food, cultural ideas spread to a new place. This sharing is called cultural diffusion. A new home can change daily routines without erasing a family's ties to its former home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Name one push factor and one pull factor that could shape a family's move from Puerto Rico to Orlando.

2. How does Puerto Rico's island location affect the way a family could travel to Florida?

3. How could cooking familiar dishes help a child feel connected to Puerto Rico and also spread culture in Florida?

4. According to the passage, what could affect a family's choice to live in Orlando itself or in a suburb?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a family moves from a small town in Puerto Rico to an Orlando suburb for a parent's new job. In four sentences, explain the pull factor, one change in settlement pattern, and a way the family could pass on and share a Puerto Rican tradition not named in the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Across the Water

GRADE 6 · 6.C.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two reasons people left Puerto Rico and circle two reasons they might choose Orlando. Write 1 beside a way a family passes on culture and 2 beside a way culture spreads to neighbors. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name one push factor and one pull factor that could shape a family's move from Puerto Rico to Orlando.	**Storm damage or power loss is a push factor. Relatives, jobs, or schools in Orlando are pull factors.**
2	How does Puerto Rico's island location affect the way a family could travel to Florida?	**The family could fly across the sea instead of crossing a land border.**
3	How could cooking familiar dishes help a child feel connected to Puerto Rico and also spread culture in Florida?	**Cooking the dishes helps the child learn a family tradition. Neighbors who try the food experience that tradition too.**
4	According to the passage, what could affect a family's choice to live in Orlando itself or in a suburb?	**Housing costs, jobs, nearby relatives, and other support could affect the choice.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A new job pulls the family toward Orlando. They leave a small town for a suburb, where they live near many other homes and travel into the city for work. The family teaches the children to celebrate Three Kings Day by leaving grass for the kings' camels. They invite neighbors to join the celebration, sharing a Puerto Rican tradition in their new community.

Accept any passage-supported push or pull factor and any accurate explanation of travel, settlement, or cultural sharing. For Part 3, accept a different realistic Puerto Rican tradition if the four sentences address the job, the move to a suburb, passing on the tradition, and sharing it.