Nets Without Borders

Trace one problem from a harbor to the wider ocean.

7.P.1.1.C "Use information to analyze how a specific problem can manifest itself in regional and global issues, describing options for solutions."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one local effect and circle one regional effect in the passage. Write 1 beside a sentence explaining the global issue and 2 beside a sentence offering a solution across borders.

The Net That Kept Fishing

1 At a busy harbor, a fishing boat loses a nylon net during a storm. The crew cannot see where it sank, but the net may keep catching fish. Some trapped animals die, and their bodies can attract more animals into the mesh. A loose net can also snag a boat's propeller, putting people at risk and costing money to repair. This is a local problem for the harbor, yet water and fishing activity do not stop at the harbor entrance.

2 Currents can carry lost nets along the coast and across national waters. Fishers in neighboring ports may then face the same hazards, while turtles or seabirds may become tangled far from the original harbor. When many nets are lost in different places, their combined effects add to a global ocean problem. The nylon in nets can break into small plastic pieces, which are difficult to remove from seawater. A single harbor's net does not cause the global problem by itself, but it can add to it.

3 The boat crew could report the loss and record its last known location, helping trained crews search safely. At the harbor, fishers could use stronger gear checks before trips and bring damaged nets ashore for disposal instead of leaving them at sea. Nearby ports could share reports and coordinate searches when currents carry gear across borders. Countries could also agree on common rules for reporting lost gear and providing places to turn in old nets. Recovery addresses nets already lost, while prevention reduces future losses.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could a net lost at one harbor become a problem for fishers in another region?

2. Why does the passage call lost nets a global issue without saying one harbor causes it?

3. Which proposed action addresses a net that is already lost, and which action could prevent another loss?

4. Why might ports in different countries need to work together on this problem?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A town's food wrappers wash into a river that crosses a border and reaches the sea. In four or five sentences, explain how this local problem could add to regional and global issues, then propose one local solution and one solution involving both countries. Make clear that one town does not cause the whole global problem.

ANSWER KEY

Nets Without Borders

GRADE 7 · 7.P.1.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one local effect and circle one regional effect in the passage. Write 1 beside a sentence explaining the global issue and 2 beside a sentence offering a solution across borders. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could a net lost at one harbor become a problem for fishers in another region?	**Currents could carry the net along the coast or across national waters, where it could snag boats or keep catching fish near other ports.**
2	Why does the passage call lost nets a global issue without saying one harbor causes it?	**Nets lost in many places have combined effects across the ocean. One harbor's net adds to that larger problem.**
3	Which proposed action addresses a net that is already lost, and which action could prevent another loss?	**Reporting the net's last known location could help trained crews recover it. Checking gear before trips could prevent a future loss.**
4	Why might ports in different countries need to work together on this problem?	**Currents can carry nets across borders, so shared reports and coordinated searches could help ports find gear beyond one country's waters.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Wrappers left on the street could wash into the river and harm animals near the town. The river could carry them across the border, leaving litter along its banks in both countries. If the wrappers reach the sea, they add to the global problem of ocean plastic, though one town does not cause that problem alone. The town could add covered bins and collect litter near storm drains. Both countries could coordinate river cleanups and share information about where trash gathers.

Accept other passage-supported effects and solutions in the short answers. For the open task, look for a plausible path from town to river to sea, two solutions at the requested scales, and a distinction between one town's contribution and the global problem.