

# Fair for Everyone

Read how laws protect people from unfair treatment.

**2.1.c** “understanding equal protection;”

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the sentence in paragraph 1 that begins “It means.” Circle the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins “A worker.” These sentences show what equal protection means and how it can work.

### Protection at School

- ① Equal protection is an idea in the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. It means state laws must treat people fairly and give people the same protection from those laws. A state cannot unfairly deny protection to a person.
- ② At River School, the playground is open to all children during open hours. Maya uses a wheelchair, so she reaches the swings on a smooth path. A worker may not turn Maya away from the swings because she uses a wheelchair.
- ③ Equal protection does not mean every person needs the same help. A ramp or smooth path can help a wheelchair user enter a public place. The law should protect Maya and the other children from unfair treatment.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** Which amendment to the United States Constitution includes the idea of equal protection?

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**2** Why may a worker not turn Maya away from the swings?

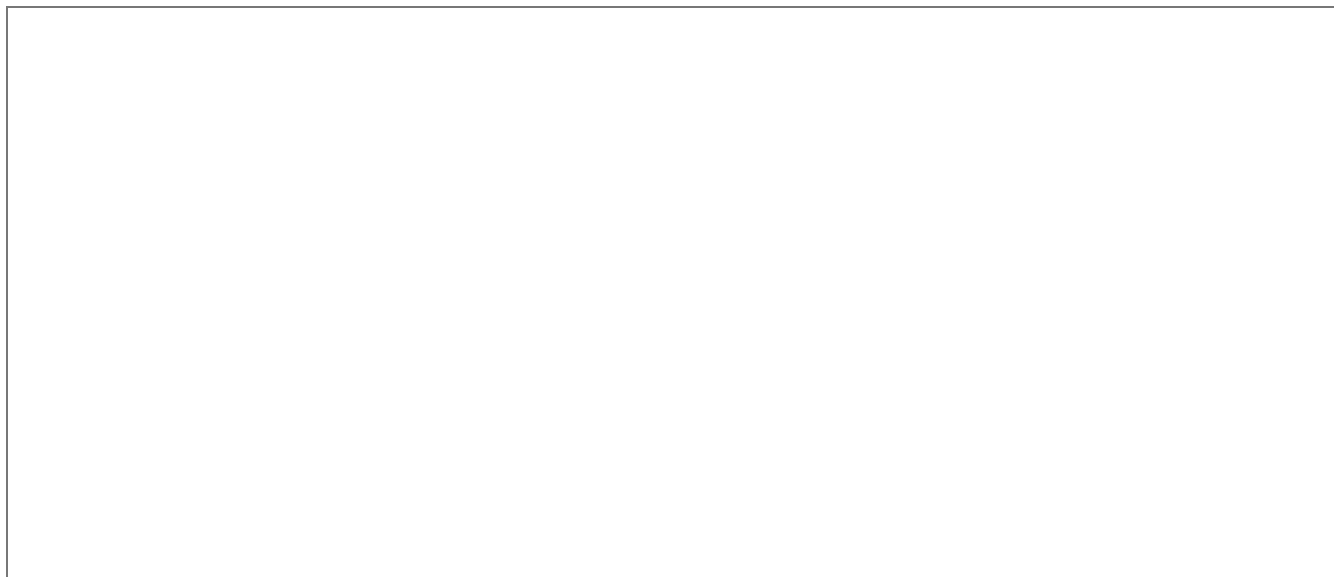
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**3** How can a ramp or smooth path support fair treatment?

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Draw a public place where a child who uses a wheelchair can join other children. Write one sentence that tells how the place treats the child fairly.



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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline the sentence in paragraph 1 that begins “It means.” Circle the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins “A worker.” These sentences show what equal protection means and how it can work. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                 | ANSWER                                                                                                  |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Which amendment to the United States Constitution includes the idea of equal protection? | <b>The Fourteenth Amendment.</b>                                                                        |
| 2 | Why may a worker not turn Maya away from the swings?                                     | <b>The worker may not turn Maya away because she uses a wheelchair. That would be unfair treatment.</b> |
| 3 | How can a ramp or smooth path support fair treatment?                                    | <b>It can help a wheelchair user enter a public place.</b>                                              |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Drawing: A child who uses a wheelchair rolls up a ramp into a library with other children. Sentence: The ramp lets the child enter the library with the other children.

Accept any accurate public-place drawing and sentence that shows a child is included rather than unfairly excluded. The student may use a ramp, smooth path, or another reasonable access feature.