

Name _____

Reviving Willow Creek Answer Key

Sample Strong Student Response (Letter Format)

Dear Mayor Thompson,

I am writing to express my concern about Willow Creek Park. The playground equipment has become rusty and unsafe, and the trash bins are often overflowing. Because of this, fewer families are visiting, and parents worry about their children's safety.

I believe our community would benefit from a clean-up day, and I hope the town council can help replace broken equipment. Restoring the park would give children a safe place to play and bring neighbors together again.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Student

Why This Works

- Includes **two details** from the passage (rusty equipment, overflowing trash bins, fewer families visiting).
- Suggests a **solution** (community clean-up, replacing equipment).
- Uses a **polite, realistic tone**.

Teacher Notes

- Accept a variety of recipients (mayor, teacher, friend, council member).
- Look for **evidence-based details** directly tied to the passage.
- Encourage students to balance **problem description** with **constructive suggestions**.
- Extension: Have students swap letters and peer-review for clarity, politeness, and use of details.