

## River Rescue Answer Key

### Sample Strong Student Response:

1. Lena's town's problem connects to larger environmental issues like water pollution and protecting natural resources. Many places face pollution from factories, trash, or waste.
2. A current event connection might be news about polluted rivers like the Ganges in India or the Flint water crisis in the United States. Both show how pollution affects people's health, businesses, and daily life.
3. Organizing clean-ups and teaching kids about protecting the environment could work in my community because they involve everyone. They are practical, and even small groups can make a noticeable difference over time.

### Teacher Notes:

- Look for answers that **link the text to real-world events or issues** rather than keeping the response only in the story.
- Strong responses mention **specific examples** (local community issues, recent environmental news, or global challenges).
- Encourage students to think about **both the problem and possible solutions** that apply beyond the text.
- Extension: Students could bring in a news article and compare it to the passage, building stronger text-to-world connections.