

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### PARKER'S PARTY PLACE

**P**arker's Party Place is a local store that sells party supplies including balloons. Parker's family started their business many years ago and they rely on the store to support themselves and the families of their employees through their successful business. Most people in the community shop for supplies and balloons at Parker's Party Place when planning to host special events, parties, and weddings.

Recently, you have learned that unfortunately, sometimes the balloons sold at Parker's Party Place end up in the environment. Occasionally, the balloons are accidentally released as Parker transports them from the shop to the event or at outdoor events. Other times, people release the balloons on purpose during their celebration. Once the balloons are in the environment, they do not break down and they can get stuck in trees or washed up on the beach. Balloons have even tangled up animals and have been eaten by wildlife. Research scientists have found that these balloons that have been released intentionally or accidentally are injuring or even killing some of these animals.

While you love shopping at Parker's Party Place and you want to continue supporting this business, you also love to spend time at the beach and see healthy animals and clean water. You are concerned about the impacts that the balloons sold at Parker's Party Place are having on your community's environment. You have even read that one of Parker's largest customers, the local aquarium, is considering no longer purchasing balloons from Parker's Party Place due to the impact the balloons are having on the environment and wildlife.

Your community wants Parker to stop selling balloons but does not want to affect the business or its employees. You have volunteered to lead an effort to educate Parker's Party Place about the harmful impacts of the balloons and promote the idea that Parker considers selling alternatives to balloons that customers can purchase instead.