Name: _____ Date: _____

A Curtain Down the Middle

Circle group

Nell and Kit were twins. They shared a room. Nell wanted a room for her own self.

"Let's hang a curtain," said Kit. "Half is yours. Half is mine."

They hung a blue sheet. Nell stayed on her side. Kit stayed on his side.

At night, Nell heard a hum. It was Kit with his toy bear. She felt lonely.

"Kit, can we open it?" she said.

"Yes!" said Kit. They pulled it back and went to sleep.

Questions

1. How did the twins share the room?

_____

_____

2. What color was the curtain?

_____

_____

3. What did Nell hear at night?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell ask Kit?

_____

_____

5. Why did Nell feel lonely?

_____

_____

Words to know

twins: two children born at the same time to one mother
curtain: a cloth that hangs to cover or split a space
hum: to make a soft sound with your lips shut

lonely: sad because you are all alone

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Curtain Down the Middle

Triangle group

Nell and Kit were twins. They shared one room. Nell wanted a room all to herself.

"Let's hang a curtain," said Kit. "Half is yours. Half is mine."

They hung a long blue sheet. Nell stayed on her side. Kit stayed on his side.

At night, Nell heard a soft hum. It was Kit, humming to his toy bear. She felt a little lonely.

"Kit?" she said. "Can we open the curtain?"

"Yes!" said Kit. They pulled it back, and they both fell asleep.

Questions

1. How did Nell and Kit share the room?

_____

_____

2. What color was the curtain?

_____

_____

3. What did Nell hear at night?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell ask Kit?

_____

_____

5. Why did Nell feel lonely behind the curtain?

_____

_____

Words to know

twins: two children born at the same time to one mother
curtain: a cloth that hangs to cover or split a space
hum: to make a soft sound with your lips shut

lonely: sad because you are all alone

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Curtain Down the Middle

Square group

Nell and Kit were twins, and they shared one bedroom. Nell secretly wished for a room that belonged only to her.

"Why don't we hang a curtain?" Kit suggested. "One half will be yours, and the other half will be mine."

Together they hung a long blue sheet across the room. Nell stayed on her side, and Kit stayed on his.

That night, Nell heard a soft hum from the other side. It was Kit, humming to his toy bear. She suddenly felt a little lonely.

"Kit," she whispered, "could we open the curtain again?"

"Yes!" he said happily. They pulled it back, and soon they were both fast asleep.

Questions

1. How did Nell and Kit divide their shared room?

_____

_____

2. What color was the sheet they hung up?

_____

_____

3. What did Nell hear from the other side at night?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell whisper to Kit?

_____

_____

5. Why did Nell begin to feel lonely behind the curtain?

_____

_____

Words to know

twins: two children born at the same time to one mother
curtain: a cloth that hangs to cover or split a space
hum: to make a soft sound with your lips shut
lonely: sad because you are all alone

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: A Curtain Down the Middle

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: A Curtain Down the Middle

Easier · 78 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -1

1. They hung a curtain in the middle.
2. Blue.
3. Kit humming to his bear.
4. If they could open the curtain.
5. She missed being close to her brother.

Triangle: A Curtain Down the Middle

This passage · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.3

1. They hung a curtain down the middle.
2. Blue.
3. Kit humming to his toy bear.
4. If they could open the curtain.
5. She missed being close to her brother.

Square: A Curtain Down the Middle

Harder · 110 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.3

1. They hung a curtain down the middle.
2. Blue.
3. Kit humming to his toy bear.
4. She asked if they could open the curtain again.
5. She missed being close to her brother, even though she had wanted her own space.