Name: _____ Date: _____

A Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

Circle group

A pickle is a cucumber that has changed. A cucumber is green and mild. A pickle is green, too. It is sour and salty.

A cook puts a cucumber in a jar. The cook adds salty water. Then the jar sits.

The cucumber soaks up the taste. Now it is a pickle. A good pickle goes crunch.

Pickles go on sandwiches.

Questions

1. What was a pickle before it was a pickle?

_____

_____

2. What does a pickle taste like?

_____

_____

3. What does the cook put the cucumber in?

_____

_____

4. What sound does a good pickle make?

_____

_____

5. Why does the cucumber change in the jar?

_____

_____

Words to know

cucumber: a long green vegetable with a cool, mild taste
mild: not strong in taste
soak: to sit in a liquid and take it in

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 Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

Triangle group

A pickle is a cucumber that has changed. A cucumber is green and mild. A pickle is green, too. But it tastes sour and salty.

Here is how it works. A cook puts a cucumber in a jar. The cook adds salty water or vinegar. Then the jar sits and waits for days.

The cucumber soaks up the sour, salty taste. Soon it is a pickle. A good pickle goes crunch when you bite it.

People put pickles on sandwiches and burgers. Some kids like to eat them just by themselves. Would you try one?

Questions

1. What was a pickle before it was a pickle?

_____

_____

2. What does a pickle taste like?

_____

_____

3. What does the cook put the cucumber in?

_____

_____

4. What sound does a good pickle make?

_____

_____

5. Why does the cucumber change in the jar?

_____

_____

Words to know

cucumber: a long green vegetable with a cool, mild taste
mild: not strong in taste
vinegar: a sour liquid used in cooking
soak: to sit in a liquid and take it in

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 Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

Square group

A pickle is really a cucumber that has been changed. A fresh cucumber is green and has a mild, cool taste. A pickle is green as well, but it tastes sour and salty instead.

This is how it happens. A cook places a cucumber inside a jar and adds salty water or a sour liquid called vinegar. Then the jar sits quietly for a while.

Slowly, the cucumber soaks up the sour, salty flavor of the liquid. Before long, it has become a pickle, and a good pickle makes a loud crunch when you bite it.

People like to put pickles on sandwiches, and some people enjoy eating them all by themselves.

Questions

1. What kind of food was a pickle before it was changed?

_____

_____

2. How does a pickle taste?

_____

_____

3. What does the cook place the cucumber inside?

_____

_____

4. What sound does a good pickle make when you bite it?

_____

_____

5. Why does the cucumber taste different after it sits in the jar?

_____

_____

Words to know

cucumber: a long green vegetable with a cool, mild taste
mild: not strong in taste
vinegar: a sour liquid used in cooking
soak: to sit in a liquid and take it in

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 Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

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

Circle: A Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

Easier · 61 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.9

1. A cucumber.
2. Sour and salty.
3. A jar.
4. Crunch.
5. It soaks up the sour, salty taste.

Triangle: A Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

This passage · 95 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. A cucumber.
2. Sour and salty.
3. A jar.
4. Crunch.
5. It soaks up the sour, salty liquid and takes on its taste.

Square: A Pickle Used to Be a Cucumber

Harder · 112 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.5

1. A cucumber.
2. Sour and salty.
3. A jar.
4. A loud crunch.
5. It soaks up the sour, salty flavor of the liquid.