Name: _____ Date: _____

A Sand Clock for Telling Time

Circle group

An hourglass is a clock. It is made of glass and sand. It has two round parts. A thin neck joins them.

Sand sits in the top part. Turn the glass over. The sand falls down. It piles up in the bottom part.

When the sand is all at the bottom, the time is up. Sailors used hourglasses on ships long ago.

Questions

1. What is an hourglass made of?

_____

_____

2. Where does the sand sit at first?

_____

_____

3. Who used hourglasses long ago?

_____

_____

4. What happens when you turn the glass over?

_____

_____

5. How do you know the time is up?

_____

_____

Words to know

hourglass: a glass clock that uses falling sand
neck: the thin part in the middle
sailor: a person who works on a ship

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 Sand Clock for Telling Time

Triangle group

An hourglass is a clock made of glass and sand. It has a round part on top and a round part below. A thin neck joins the two.

At first, the sand rests up high. Flip the glass, and the sand starts to run. It trickles down through the neck in a thin stream. A small hill grows in the lower part.

When the top is empty, the time is up. Sailors used hourglasses long ago to count time on a ship. Today, some games have a tiny hourglass that shows how long you have for your turn.

Questions

1. What is an hourglass made of?

_____

_____

2. Where does the sand rest at first?

_____

_____

3. Who used hourglasses long ago?

_____

_____

4. What happens when you flip the glass?

_____

_____

5. How do you know the time is up?

_____

_____

Words to know

hourglass: a glass clock that uses falling sand
neck: the thin part in the middle
sailor: a person who works on a ship
count: to figure out how much

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 Sand Clock for Telling Time

Square group

An hourglass is a kind of clock that is made from glass and sand. It has two round bulbs, and a narrow neck connects them.

At the start, all of the sand sits in the top bulb. When you turn the glass upside down, the sand begins to trickle through the neck, bit by bit, and it slowly piles up in the bottom bulb.

Once all of the sand has fallen to the bottom, you know that the time is up. Long ago, sailors used hourglasses to measure time on their ships. Today, some board games include a small hourglass that shows how long you have to take your turn.

Questions

1. What materials is an hourglass made from?

_____

_____

2. Where is all of the sand at the start?

_____

_____

3. Who used hourglasses to measure time on ships long ago?

_____

_____

4. What happens to the sand when you turn the glass upside down?

_____

_____

5. How can you tell that the time is up?

_____

_____

Words to know

hourglass: a glass clock that uses falling sand
neck: the thin part in the middle
sailor: a person who works on a ship

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 Sand Clock for Telling Time

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

Circle: A Sand Clock for Telling Time

Easier · 62 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. Glass and sand.
2. In the top part.
3. Sailors.
4. The sand falls down.
5. All the sand is at the bottom.

Triangle: A Sand Clock for Telling Time

This passage · 98 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.4

1. Glass and sand.
2. Up high, in the top part.
3. Sailors.
4. The sand starts to run down to the lower part.
5. The top part is empty and all of the sand is below.

Square: A Sand Clock for Telling Time

Harder · 110 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.3

1. Glass and sand.
2. In the top bulb.
3. Sailors.
4. It trickles through the neck and piles up in the bottom bulb.
5. All of the sand has fallen to the bottom.