Name: _____ Date: _____

Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

Circle group

On a warm night, small lights float over the grass. They blink on and off. They are fireflies.

A firefly is a small beetle. It can make light. It blinks to say, "I am here."

Each kind of firefly has its own blinks. A firefly looks for a friend with the same blinks. The friend blinks back. Then they find each other.

Questions

1. When can you see fireflies?

_____

_____

2. What is a firefly?

_____

_____

3. Why does a firefly blink?

_____

_____

4. What does each kind of firefly have?

_____

_____

5. Why does a firefly blink back?

_____

_____

Words to know

firefly: a small beetle that makes its own light

beetle: a bug with hard wings that cover its back

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: _____

Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

Triangle group

On a warm summer night, tiny lights float over the grass. They go on and off. They are fireflies.

A firefly is a small beetle. Its body can make light. It uses the light to talk. A firefly blinks to tell other fireflies, "I am here."

Each kind of firefly has its own pattern. One kind blinks fast. Another kind makes a long glow. A firefly looks for a friend that blinks the same way. The friend blinks back. Then the two fireflies can find each other in the dark.

Questions

1. When can you see fireflies?

_____

_____

2. What kind of animal is a firefly?

_____

_____

3. What does a firefly use its light for?

_____

_____

4. What does each kind of firefly have?

_____

_____

5. Why does a firefly blink back at a friend?

_____

_____

Words to know

firefly: a small beetle that makes its own light
beetle: a bug with hard wings that cover its back
glow: to shine with a soft light

pattern: a way something repeats again and again

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: _____

Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

Square group

On a warm summer night, tiny lights drift above the grass, flickering on and off. These lights belong to fireflies.

A firefly is actually a small beetle, and its body is able to produce light. It uses that light to communicate, blinking to tell other fireflies, "I am here."

Every kind of firefly has its own pattern. One kind blinks quickly, while another makes a long, steady glow. A firefly searches for a friend that blinks in the same way. When the friend blinks back, the two fireflies can locate each other in the dark.

Questions

1. At what time of year and day can you see fireflies?

_____

_____

2. What kind of animal is a firefly?

_____

_____

3. What does a firefly use its light to do?

_____

_____

4. How is one kind of firefly different from another?

_____

_____

5. Why does a firefly wait for a friend to blink back?

_____

_____

Words to know

firefly: a small beetle that makes its own light
beetle: a bug with hard wings that cover its back
glow: to shine with a soft light

pattern: a way something repeats again and again

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: Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

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

Circle: Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

Easier · 62 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.7

1. On a warm night.
2. A small beetle.
3. To talk to other fireflies.
4. Its own blinks.
5. So they can find each other in the dark.

Triangle: Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

This passage · 90 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. On a warm summer night.
2. A small beetle.
3. To talk to other fireflies.
4. Its own pattern of blinks.
5. So the two fireflies can find each other in the dark.

Square: Fireflies Blink to Say Hello

Harder · 95 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.1

1. On a warm summer night.
2. A small beetle.
3. To communicate with other fireflies.
4. Each kind has its own pattern of blinks or glows.
5. The answer lets the two fireflies locate each other in the dark.