Name: _____ Date: _____

Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

Circle group

Have you seen a soft green carpet on a rock? It may be moss. Moss is a tiny plant. It has no flowers.

Moss has no real roots. It takes in water through its leaves. So it likes damp places, like a shady forest floor.

Moss is soft. Small bugs hide in it. If it gets dry, moss turns brown. When rain comes, it turns green again.

Questions

1. What does moss look like on a rock?

_____

_____

2. Does moss have flowers?

_____

_____

3. How does moss take in water?

_____

_____

4. What color is dry moss?

_____

_____

5. Why does moss grow in damp places?

_____

_____

Words to know

moss: a tiny, soft green plant with no flowers
damp: a little bit wet
shady: cool and out of the sun
carpet: a soft covering

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: _____

Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

Triangle group

Have you seen a soft green carpet on a rock? It might be moss. Moss is a tiny plant. It has no flowers.

Moss does not have real roots. It takes in water right through its leaves. So it likes places that stay damp, like a shady forest floor or the side of a log.

Moss is soft to touch. Small bugs hide in it. If it gets dry, moss can turn brown. When the rain comes back, it turns green again. It is a tough little plant, and it is fun to look at up close with a friend.

Questions

1. What does moss look like on a rock?

_____

_____

2. Does moss have flowers?

_____

_____

3. How does moss take in water?

_____

_____

4. What color does dry moss turn?

_____

_____

5. Why does moss grow in damp places?

_____

_____

Words to know

moss: a tiny, soft green plant with no flowers
damp: a little bit wet
shady: cool and out of the sun

carpet: a soft covering

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: _____

Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

Square group

Have you ever noticed a soft green carpet growing on a rock or a log? It is probably moss. Moss is a tiny plant, and it does not have any flowers.

Moss does not have real roots. Instead, it takes in water right through its leaves. For that reason, it grows best in places that stay damp, such as a shady forest floor or the side of an old log.

Moss feels soft to the touch, and small bugs like to hide inside it. When the weather gets too dry, moss can turn brown. Once the rain comes back, it turns green again.

Questions

1. What does moss look like when it grows on a rock or a log?

_____

_____

2. Does moss grow any flowers?

_____

_____

3. How does moss take in the water it needs?

_____

_____

4. What color can moss turn when the weather is too dry?

_____

_____

5. Why does moss grow best in damp places?

_____

_____

Words to know

moss: a tiny, soft green plant with no flowers
damp: a little bit wet
shady: cool and out of the sun

carpet: a soft covering

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: Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

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

Circle: Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

Easier · 67 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0

1. A soft green carpet.
2. No, it has no flowers.
3. Through its leaves.
4. Brown.
5. It takes in water through its leaves.

Triangle: Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

This passage · 100 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. A soft green carpet.
2. No, it has no flowers.
3. Right through its leaves.
4. Brown.
5. It takes in water through its leaves, so it needs wet spots.

Square: Moss Likes Damp, Shady Spots

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. A soft green carpet.
2. No, it does not have any flowers.
3. Right through its leaves.
4. Brown.
5. It takes in water through its leaves, so it needs places that stay wet.