Name: _____ Date: _____

Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

Circle group

Omar was filling the birdbath. He found a stone under it. It had a blue dot. Why was it there?

He saw another stone by the fence. It had a blue dot too. Then he saw one by the shed.

Omar went from stone to stone. The last stone sat by the old oak. Under the oak was a small box.

In the box was a note. "Made for Omar by Rosa." There was a tiny birdhouse. His big sister made it.

Omar hung it on the oak. A wren moved in.

Questions

1. Where did Omar find the first stone?

_____

_____

2. What color was the dot on each stone?

_____

_____

3. Where was the box?

_____

_____

4. Who made the birdhouse?

_____

_____

5. Why did Rosa put the stones in a line?

_____

_____

Words to know

birdbath: a shallow bowl of water for birds

shed: a small building for tools

oak: a big tree with acorns

wren: a tiny brown bird
stone: a small, hard piece of rock from the ground

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: _____

Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

Triangle group

Omar was filling the birdbath. He found a stone under it. It had a blue dot on top. Why was it there?

He saw another stone by the fence. It had a blue dot too. Then he saw one by the shed.

Omar went from stone to stone. The last stone sat by the old oak tree. Under the oak was a small box.

Inside the box lay a note. "Made for Omar by Rosa." Under the note was a tiny birdhouse. His big sister had made it.

Omar hung it on the oak. By noon, a wren moved in.

Questions

1. Where did Omar find the first stone?

_____

_____

2. What color was the dot on each stone?

_____

_____

3. Where was the box?

_____

_____

4. Who made the birdhouse?

_____

_____

5. Why did Rosa put stones in a line?

_____

_____

Words to know

birdbath: a shallow bowl of water for birds
shed: a small building for tools
oak: a big tree with acorns
wren: a tiny brown bird
stone: a small, hard piece of rock from the ground

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: _____

Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

Square group

Omar was filling the birdbath with fresh water when he noticed a smooth stone tucked underneath it. A blue dot was painted on top. Why was it there?

Then he spotted another stone near the fence, and it had a blue dot as well. A third one lay beside the shed.

Omar followed the trail from stone to stone. The last stone rested at the foot of the old oak tree, and beneath the oak sat a small wooden box.

Inside the box was a note that read, "Made for Omar by Rosa." Under the note lay a tiny birdhouse that his big sister had built.

Omar hung it on a branch of the oak. Before noon, a wren had moved in.

Questions

1. Where did Omar first notice a painted stone?

_____

_____

2. What color was the dot painted on each stone?

_____

_____

3. Where did Omar find the wooden box?

_____

_____

4. Who had built the birdhouse?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Rosa laid a trail of painted stones?

_____

_____

Words to know

birdbath: a shallow bowl of water for birds
shed: a small building for tools
oak: a big tree with acorns
wren: a tiny brown bird
stone: a small, hard piece of rock from the ground

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: Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

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

Circle: Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

Easier · 92 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.3

1. Under the birdbath.
2. Blue.
3. Under the old oak.
4. His big sister, Rosa.
5. To lead Omar to his gift.

Triangle: Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

This passage · 100 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. Under the birdbath.
2. Blue.
3. Under the old oak tree.
4. Omar's big sister, Rosa.
5. To lead Omar to his gift.

Square: Painted Stones Under the Birdbath

Harder · 122 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. Tucked under the birdbath.
2. Blue.
3. Beneath the old oak tree.
4. His big sister, Rosa.
5. She wanted to lead Omar to her surprise gift.