Name: _____ Date: _____

# Paper Made from River Reeds

Circle group

Long ago, people in Egypt made paper. They made it from a plant. The plant was papyrus. It grew by the river.

A worker cut the stems. He cut them into thin strips. He laid the strips in a row. He laid more strips on top. Then he pressed them flat.

The strips dried into a sheet. People wrote on it with ink. They rolled it up like a scroll.

## Questions

**1. What plant did people use to make paper?**

_____

_____

**2. Where did papyrus grow?**

_____

_____

**3. What did the worker cut the stems into?**

_____

_____

**4. What did people do with the dry sheets?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did the worker press the strips flat?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

papyrus: a tall plant that people used to make paper
strip: a long, thin piece of something
scroll: a long sheet of paper that is rolled up
ink: a colored liquid that you write with

## 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: _____

# Paper Made from River Reeds

Triangle group

Long ago, in Egypt, people made paper from a plant. The plant was called papyrus. It grew tall by the river.

A worker cut the stems. Then he cut the stems into thin strips. He laid the strips in a row. He laid more strips on top, the other way. Then he pressed them flat.

The strips dried into a sheet. People wrote on it with ink. They rolled the sheets up like a scroll. Do you like to write on paper? So did they!

## Questions

**1. What plant did people use to make paper?**

_____

_____

**2. Where did papyrus grow?**

_____

_____

**3. What did the worker cut the stems into?**

_____

_____

**4. What did people do with the dry sheets?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did the worker press the strips flat?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

papyrus: a tall plant that people used to make paper
strip: a long, thin piece of something
scroll: a long sheet of paper that is rolled up
ink: a colored liquid that you write with

## 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: _____

# Paper Made from River Reeds

Square group

Thousands of years ago, people in Egypt made paper from a tall plant called papyrus. The plant grew in thick patches along the river.

A worker cut the stems of the plant and sliced them into thin strips. He laid the strips side by side in a row, and then he laid more strips across the top in the other direction. After that, he pressed everything flat.

Once the strips had dried, they became a single sheet. People wrote on the sheet with ink, and they often rolled the sheets up into a long scroll. Do you enjoy writing on paper? People in Egypt did too.

## Questions

**1. What kind of plant did people in Egypt use to make paper?**

_____

_____

**2. Where did the papyrus plant grow?**

_____

_____

**3. What did the worker do to the stems before he laid them in a row?**

_____

_____

**4. What did people do with the sheets once they were dry?**

_____

_____

**5. Why do you think the worker pressed the strips flat?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

papyrus: a tall plant that people used to make paper

strip: a long, thin piece of something

scroll: a long sheet of paper that is rolled up
ink: a colored liquid that you write with

## 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: Paper Made from River Reeds

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

### Circle: Paper Made from River Reeds

Easier · 70 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. Papyrus.
2. By the river.
3. Thin strips.
4. They wrote on them with ink.
5. So they would stick and dry into one flat sheet.

### Triangle: Paper Made from River Reeds

This passage · 85 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.7

1. A plant called papyrus.
2. By the river.
3. Thin strips.
4. They wrote on them with ink and rolled them up.
5. So the strips would stick together and dry into one flat sheet.

### Square: Paper Made from River Reeds

Harder · 106 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.4

1. A tall plant called papyrus.
2. In thick patches along the river.
3. He sliced them into thin strips.
4. They wrote on them with ink and rolled them into a scroll.
5. To make the strips stick together and dry into one smooth sheet.