Name: _____ Date: _____

Pebbles in the Mail

Circle group

Rosa's best friend Omar moved far away. Rosa missed him. The seat by her at lunch was empty.

One day a small box came in the mail. In it was a smooth gray pebble. A note said, "I found this by my new home. Love, Omar."

Rosa smiled. She found a pebble in her yard. It was white with a stripe. She put it in a box and sent it to Omar.

Now they trade pebbles each month. Rosa keeps hers on a shelf.

Questions

1. Why was the lunch seat empty?

_____

_____

2. What came in the mail?

_____

_____

3. What did Rosa's pebble look like?

_____

_____

4. Where does Rosa keep her pebbles?

_____

_____

5. Why did Rosa smile at the pebble?

_____

_____

Words to know

pebble: a small, smooth stone
mail: letters and boxes that people send to each other
smooth: flat and not rough when you touch it

trade: to give something and get something 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: _____

Pebbles in the Mail

Triangle group

Rosa's best friend Omar moved far away. Rosa missed him. The seat next to her at lunch was empty.

One day a small box came in the mail. Inside was a smooth gray pebble. A note said, "I found this by my new house. Love, Omar."

Rosa smiled. She found a pebble in her yard. It was white with a stripe. She put it in a box and mailed it to Omar.

Now they trade pebbles each month. Rosa keeps hers on a shelf.

Questions

1. Why was the lunch seat empty?

_____

_____

2. What came in the mail?

_____

_____

3. What did Rosa's pebble look like?

_____

_____

4. Where does Rosa keep the pebbles she gets?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Rosa smiled when she got the pebble?

_____

_____

Words to know

pebble: a small, smooth stone
mail: letters and boxes that people send to each other
smooth: flat and not rough when you touch it

trade: to give something and get something 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: _____

Pebbles in the Mail

Square group

Rosa's best friend, Omar, moved very far away, and Rosa missed him terribly. At lunch, the seat next to hers stayed empty.

One afternoon, a small box arrived in the mail. Inside was a smooth gray pebble, along with a note that said, "I found this near my new house. Love, Omar."

Rosa smiled. She searched her yard until she found a pebble of her own. It was white with a stripe across the middle. She packed it in a box and mailed it to Omar.

Now the two friends trade pebbles every month, and Rosa keeps all of hers on a shelf.

Questions

1. Why did the seat next to Rosa stay empty at lunch?

_____

_____

2. What arrived in the mail one afternoon?

_____

_____

3. What did the pebble that Rosa found look like?

_____

_____

4. Where does Rosa keep the pebbles she gets?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Rosa smiled when she opened the box?

_____

_____

Words to know

pebble: a small, smooth stone
mail: letters and boxes that people send to each other
smooth: flat and not rough when you touch it

trade: to give something and get something 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?

For the teacher: Pebbles in the Mail

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

Circle: Pebbles in the Mail

Easier · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. Omar moved far away.
2. A small box with a gray pebble.
3. White with a stripe.
4. On a shelf.
5. It showed Omar still thought of her.

Triangle: Pebbles in the Mail

This passage · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.6

1. Omar moved far away.
2. A small box with a gray pebble.
3. It was white with a stripe.
4. On a shelf.
5. It showed that Omar still thought about her.

Square: Pebbles in the Mail

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. Her best friend Omar had moved far away.
2. A small box holding a smooth gray pebble and a note.
3. It was white with a stripe across the middle.
4. On a shelf.
5. The pebble showed that Omar still thought about her, even from far away.