Name: _____ Date: _____

Sam and the Snail Tank

Circle group

Sam's class had two snails in a tank. This week, Sam had to clean it.

Sam did not like the job. The tank was slimy. But the snails needed a clean home.

Sam wiped the glass. He took out the old lettuce. He put in a new leaf.

Then he saw a snail with a small shell. It slid up the glass. Its eye stalks wiggled.

"You are not yucky," said Sam. "You are cool."

Next week, Sam asked for the job again.

Questions

1. How many snails were in the tank?

_____

_____

2. What was Sam's job?

_____

_____

3. What did Sam put in the tank?

_____

_____

4. Why did Sam change his mind?

_____

_____

5. Why did Sam ask for the job again?

_____

_____

Words to know

tank: a glass box that holds animals or water

slimy: wet and slippery

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: _____

Sam and the Snail Tank

Triangle group

Sam's class had two snails in a glass tank. This week, it was Sam's job to clean it.

Sam did not like the job. The tank was a bit slimy. But the snails needed a clean home.

Sam wiped the glass with a damp cloth. He picked out the old lettuce. He put in a fresh leaf.

Then he spotted a snail with a small spiral shell. It slid up the glass slowly. Its eye stalks wiggled at him.

"You are not so yucky," Sam said. "You are kind of cool."

Next week, Sam asked for the job again.

Questions

1. How many snails lived in the tank?

_____

_____

2. What was Sam's job?

_____

_____

3. What did Sam put in the tank?

_____

_____

4. Why did Sam change his mind about the job?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Sam asked for the job again?

_____

_____

Words to know

tank: a glass box that holds animals or water

slimy: wet and slippery

damp: a little bit wet
spiral: a shape that curls round and round

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: _____

Sam and the Snail Tank

Square group

Sam's class kept two snails in a glass tank, and this week it was Sam's turn to clean it.

At first, Sam did not want to do the job because the tank was a bit slimy. Still, he knew the snails needed a clean home.

He wiped the glass with a damp cloth, picked out the old lettuce and set in a fresh leaf.

Then he noticed a snail with a tiny spiral shell. It slid slowly up the side of the glass, and its eye stalks wiggled right at him.

"You are not so yucky after all," Sam said. "You are actually pretty cool."

The following week, Sam asked if he could clean the tank again.

Questions

1. How many snails did the class keep in the glass tank?

_____

_____

2. What was Sam's job this week?

_____

_____

3. What did Sam set in the tank at the end of his cleaning?

_____

_____

4. Why did Sam change his mind about the job?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Sam asked to clean the tank again?

_____

_____

Words to know

tank: a glass box that holds animals or water
slimy: wet and slippery
damp: a little bit wet
spiral: a shape that curls round and round

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: Sam and the Snail Tank

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

Circle: Sam and the Snail Tank

Easier · 83 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.8

1. Two snails.
2. To clean the tank.
3. A new leaf.
4. He saw the snail up close and it was cool.
5. He liked the snails now.

Triangle: Sam and the Snail Tank

This passage · 99 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. Two snails.
2. To clean the snail tank.
3. A fresh leaf.
4. He saw the snail was cool when he looked closely.
5. He liked the snails now.

Square: Sam and the Snail Tank

Harder · 117 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3

1. Two snails.
2. To clean the snail tank.
3. A fresh leaf.
4. He looked closely and decided the snail was cool.
5. He liked the snails now.