Name: _____ Date: _____

How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

Circle group

A sign painter paints words by hand. Here is how.

First, she rubs a line of chalk on the board. The line shows where the words go. Next, she marks where each letter starts. Then she dips a soft brush in paint.

She holds her hand still. She pulls the brush down in one long stroke. Each letter is the same size.

The paint dries. The sign is ready.

Questions

1. What does a sign painter paint by hand?

_____

_____

2. What does she rub on the board first?

_____

_____

3. What does she dip in the paint?

_____

_____

4. What must happen before the sign is ready?

_____

_____

5. Why does she draw a chalk line first?

_____

_____

6. Why does she hold her hand still?

_____

_____

Words to know

painter: a person who puts paint on things
chalk: a soft white stick used to draw lines
letter: a shape that stands for a sound, like A or B
stroke: one move of a brush
dries: gets rid of its wet and turns hard

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: _____

How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

Triangle group

A sign painter paints words by hand. Here is how she does it.

Step one: she rubs a thin line of chalk across the board. This line shows her where the words will go. Step two: she marks where each letter will start. Step three: she dips a soft brush in paint.

Now comes the hard part. She holds her hand very still. She pulls the brush down in one long stroke. She makes each letter the same size.

When the paint dries, the sign is ready to hang.

Questions

1. What does a sign painter paint by hand?

_____

_____

2. What does she rub across the board first?

_____

_____

3. What does she dip in the paint?

_____

_____

4. What must she wait for before the sign can hang?

_____

_____

5. Why does she draw a chalk line first?

_____

_____

6. Why does she hold her hand very still?

_____

_____

Words to know

painter: a person who puts paint on things
chalk: a soft white stick used to draw lines
letter: a shape that stands for a sound, like A or B
stroke: one move of a brush
dries: gets rid of its wet and turns hard

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: _____

How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

Square group

A sign painter paints words by hand, one letter at a time. This is how she does it.

To begin, she rubs a thin line of chalk across the board, and that line shows her where the words will go. Then she marks the place where each letter will start. After that, she dips a soft brush into the paint.

Now comes the difficult part. She holds her hand very still and pulls the brush down in one long, steady stroke. She works carefully so that every letter is the same size.

When the paint has dried, the sign is ready to hang.

Questions

1. What does a sign painter paint by hand?

_____

_____

2. What does she rub across the board to begin?

_____

_____

3. What does she dip into the paint?

_____

_____

4. What must happen before the sign can hang?

_____

_____

5. Why does she begin with a chalk line?

_____

_____

6. Why does she hold her hand so still?

_____

_____

Words to know

painter: a person who puts paint on things
chalk: a soft white stick used to draw lines
letter: a shape that stands for a sound, like A or B
stroke: one move of a brush

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: How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

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

Circle: How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

Easier · 69 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.7

1. Words.
2. A line of chalk.
3. A soft brush.
4. The paint must dry.
5. It helps keep the words straight.
6. A shaky hand makes wobbly letters.

Triangle: How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

This passage · 89 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. Words.
2. A thin line of chalk.
3. A soft brush.
4. The paint to dry.
5. It helps her keep the words straight.
6. A shaky hand would make wobbly letters.

Square: How a Sign Painter Makes Straight Words

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. Words, one letter at a time.
2. A thin line of chalk.
3. A soft brush.
4. The paint must dry.
5. It shows her where the words go and helps keep them straight.
6. A shaky hand would make wobbly letters.