Name: _____ Date: _____

Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

Circle group

A maple tree has a sweet secret. Inside is a watery juice called sap. In late winter, the sap flows.

People put a tap in the tree. The sap drips into a bucket. The tree is not hurt. It keeps on growing.

The sap is mostly water. People heat it in a big pan. The water goes up as steam. What is left is sweet maple syrup. It is good on pancakes!

Questions

1. What is the juice inside a maple tree called?

_____

_____

2. When does the sap flow?

_____

_____

3. Where does the sap drip?

_____

_____

4. What do people make from sap?

_____

_____

5. Why do people heat the sap?

_____

_____

Words to know

sap: the watery juice inside a tree
maple: a kind of tree with sweet sap
bucket: a round container with a handle
steam: the hot mist that rises from heated water

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: _____

Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

Triangle group

A maple tree has a sweet secret. Inside the tree is a watery juice called sap. In late winter, the sap starts to flow.

People put a small tap into the tree. The sap drips out into a bucket. The tree is not hurt. It keeps on growing.

The sap is mostly water, so it needs help. People heat it in a big pan. The water goes up into the air as steam. What is left is thick, sweet maple syrup. It tastes great on warm pancakes! Many families love it.

Questions

1. What is the watery juice inside a maple tree called?

_____

_____

2. When does the sap start to flow?

_____

_____

3. Where does the sap drip into?

_____

_____

4. What do people make from the sap?

_____

_____

5. Why do people heat the sap in a pan?

_____

_____

Words to know

sap: the watery juice inside a tree
maple: a kind of tree with sweet sap
bucket: a round container with a handle

steam: the hot mist that rises from heated water

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: _____

Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

Square group

A maple tree has a sweet secret hidden inside it. A watery juice called sap moves through the tree, and in late winter the sap begins to flow more quickly.

People place a small tap into the trunk of the tree, and the sap drips out into a bucket. The tree is not harmed by this, and it keeps on growing year after year.

Because the sap is mostly water, it needs some help. People heat it in a big pan, and the water rises into the air as steam. What remains is thick, sweet maple syrup, which tastes wonderful on warm pancakes!

Questions

1. What is the watery juice inside a maple tree called?

_____

_____

2. When does the sap begin to flow more quickly?

_____

_____

3. Where does the sap drip after it leaves the tree?

_____

_____

4. What do people finally make from the sap?

_____

_____

5. Why do people heat the sap in a big pan?

_____

_____

Words to know

sap: the watery juice inside a tree
maple: a kind of tree with sweet sap
bucket: a round container with a handle

steam: the hot mist that rises from heated water

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: Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

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

Circle: Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

Easier · 72 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.7

1. Sap.
2. In late winter.
3. Into a bucket.
4. Maple syrup.
5. The water goes away as steam and the syrup is left.

Triangle: Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

This passage · 91 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. Sap.
2. In late winter.
3. A bucket.
4. Maple syrup.
5. The water turns to steam and goes away, and the thick syrup is left.

Square: Sweet Sap from a Maple Tree

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.4

1. Sap.
2. In late winter.
3. Into a bucket.
4. Thick, sweet maple syrup.
5. Heat turns the water into steam, and the thick syrup is left behind.