Name: _____ Date: _____

The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

Circle group

Bruno the beaver built a dam. He piled up sticks and mud. It was done. But the dam leaned to one side.

Splash! The water ran over the low side. The dam fell. Bruno was sad. "I will never get it right," he said.

His mother said, "Look at how it fell. Where was it weak?" Bruno saw that the bottom sticks were too thin.

The next day he began again. He put thick logs at the bottom. This time the dam stood straight.

Questions

1. What did Bruno build?

_____

_____

2. What did Bruno use to build it?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the first dam?

_____

_____

4. What did Bruno put at the bottom the next time?

_____

_____

5. Why did the second dam stand straight?

_____

_____

Words to know

beaver: an animal with a flat tail that builds with sticks
dam: a wall that holds back water in a river
lean: to tilt to one side
weak: not strong

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: _____

The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

Triangle group

Bruno the beaver built a dam. He piled up sticks and mud. At last it was done. But the dam leaned to one side.

Splash! The water ran over the low side. The dam fell apart. Bruno was sad. "I will never get it right," he said.

His mother said, "Look at how it fell. Where was it weak?" Bruno looked. He saw that the bottom sticks were too thin.

The next day he began again. He put thick logs at the bottom. This time the dam stood straight. Bruno smiled and patted it.

Questions

1. What did Bruno the beaver build?

_____

_____

2. What did Bruno use to build it?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the first dam?

_____

_____

4. What did Bruno put at the bottom the next time?

_____

_____

5. Why did the second dam stand straight?

_____

_____

Words to know

beaver: an animal with a flat tail that builds with sticks
dam: a wall that holds back water in a river
lean: to tilt to one side
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Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
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3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

Square group

Bruno the beaver worked hard to build a dam. He piled up sticks and packed them with mud, and at last it was finished. Unfortunately, the dam leaned badly to one side.

Splash! The river poured over the low side, and the whole dam collapsed. Bruno felt discouraged. "I will never get it right," he sighed.

His mother said gently, "Look closely at how it fell. Where was it weak?" Bruno studied the pile and noticed that the sticks at the bottom were too thin.

The next day he started over. This time he set thick logs at the bottom, and the dam stood straight and strong.

Questions

1. What did Bruno the beaver work hard to build?

_____

_____

2. What materials did Bruno use to build it?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the first dam?

_____

_____

4. What did Bruno set at the bottom the second time?

_____

_____

5. Why did the second dam stand straight and strong?

_____

_____

Words to know

beaver: an animal with a flat tail that builds with sticks
dam: a wall that holds back water in a river
lean: to tilt to one side
weak: not strong

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: The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

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

Circle: The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

Easier · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.1

1. A dam.
2. Sticks and mud.
3. It leaned and then fell.
4. Thick logs.
5. Bruno saw what was weak and fixed it.

Triangle: The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

This passage · 94 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.3

1. A dam.
2. Sticks and mud.
3. It leaned and then fell apart.
4. Thick logs.
5. Bruno saw what was weak and fixed it with thick logs.

Square: The Beaver Who Built a Lopsided Dam

Harder · 107 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.9

1. A dam.
2. Sticks and mud.
3. It leaned to one side and then collapsed.
4. Thick logs.
5. Bruno studied where the first one was weak and fixed it with thick logs.