Name: _____ Date: _____

The Button Jar Swap

Circle group

Tess had a jar of buttons. It had red ones and blue ones. It had no green ones.

Hugo had a jar too. His had green ones. He had no red ones.

"Let's swap," said Tess. "I give you three red."

"I give you three green," said Hugo.

They poured the buttons on the rug. Click, click! Tess grinned. Hugo grinned.

Questions

1. What was in Tess's jar?

_____

_____

2. What color did Hugo have that Tess did not?

_____

_____

3. How many buttons did each friend give?

_____

_____

4. Where did they pour the buttons?

_____

_____

5. Why did both friends grin?

_____

_____

Words to know

button: a small round thing that holds clothes shut
swap: to give one thing and get another
poured: made something flow out of a jar
grinned: smiled a big smile

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 Button Jar Swap

Triangle group

Tess had a jar of buttons. It had red ones and blue ones. It had no green ones.

Her friend Hugo had a jar too. His jar had green buttons. It had no red ones.

"Let's swap," said Tess. "I will give you three red buttons."

"I will give you three green ones," said Hugo.

They poured the buttons on the rug. Click, click, click! Each jar got something new. Tess grinned. Hugo grinned too. It was a fair trade, and they were both happy with it. They put the lids back on their jars.

Questions

1. What did Tess have in her jar?

_____

_____

2. What color did Hugo have that Tess did not?

_____

_____

3. How many buttons did each friend give?

_____

_____

4. Where did they pour the buttons?

_____

_____

5. Why did Tess and Hugo both grin?

_____

_____

Words to know

button: a small round thing that holds clothes shut
swap: to give one thing and get another
poured: made something flow out of a jar

grinned: smiled a big smile

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 Button Jar Swap

Square group

Tess owned a jar full of buttons. It held red ones and blue ones, but it did not hold a single green one.

Her friend Hugo also kept a jar of buttons. His jar was full of green buttons, but he had no red ones at all.

"Let's swap," suggested Tess. "I will give you three of my red buttons."

"And I will give you three of my green ones," replied Hugo.

They poured the buttons onto the rug, and they went click, click, click. Each jar now held something new. Tess grinned, and Hugo grinned right back.

Questions

1. What colors of buttons did Tess keep in her jar?

_____

_____

2. Which color did Hugo have that Tess did not?

_____

_____

3. How many buttons did each friend agree to give?

_____

_____

4. Where did the friends pour out the buttons?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think both friends grinned at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

button: a small round thing that holds clothes shut
swap: to give one thing and get another
poured: made something flow out of a jar
grinned: smiled a big smile

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 Button Jar Swap

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

Circle: The Button Jar Swap

Easier · 61 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -1

1. Red and blue buttons.
2. Green.
3. Three.
4. On the rug.
5. Each got new colors, so both were happy.

Triangle: The Button Jar Swap

This passage · 95 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.2

1. Red buttons and blue buttons.
2. Green.
3. Three buttons.
4. On the rug.
5. Each one got new colors for a jar, so both were happy.

Square: The Button Jar Swap

Harder · 98 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. Red buttons and blue buttons.
2. Green.
3. Three buttons each.
4. Onto the rug.
5. Each friend got new colors for a jar, so the swap was fair and made both happy.