Name: _____ Date: _____

The Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

Circle group

Dax is a green dragon. He can puff big fire. But Dax is afraid of birthday candles.

"They are too small," said Dax. "I might sit on them."

It was Pia's birthday. Pia had a cake with five candles. Dax hid under the table.

Pia took his paw. "Just watch," she said. She blew out a candle. Then she blew out another. Dax laughed. Now he is not afraid.

Questions

1. What color is Dax?

_____

_____

2. What is Dax afraid of?

_____

_____

3. How many candles were on the cake?

_____

_____

4. Where did Dax hide?

_____

_____

5. Why did Dax say the candles were too small?

_____

_____

6. What helped Dax stop being afraid?

_____

_____

Words to know

dragon: a big pretend animal with wings that can breathe fire
afraid: scared of something
candle: a stick of wax with a small flame
paw: the foot of an animal

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 Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

Triangle group

Dax is a green dragon. He can puff big fire. But Dax is afraid of birthday candles.

"They are too small," said Dax. "I cannot see them. I might sit on them."

It was his friend Pia's birthday. Pia had a cake with five candles. Dax hid under the table.

Pia took Dax's paw. "Just watch," she said. She blew out one candle, and then another. The smoke made a little curl. Dax laughed. Now he is not afraid.

Questions

1. What color is Dax?

_____

_____

2. What is Dax afraid of?

_____

_____

3. How many candles were on the cake?

_____

_____

4. Where did Dax hide?

_____

_____

5. Why did Dax say the candles were too small?

_____

_____

6. What helped Dax stop being afraid?

_____

_____

Words to know

dragon: a big pretend animal with wings that can breathe fire
afraid: scared of something
candle: a stick of wax with a small flame
paw: the foot of an animal

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 Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

Square group

Dax is a green dragon who can puff enormous fire. Even so, Dax is terribly afraid of birthday candles.

"They are far too small," Dax explained. "I cannot see them well, and I might accidentally sit on one."

It was his friend Pia's birthday, and she had a cake with five candles on it. Dax quickly hid under the table.

Pia gently took Dax's paw. "Just watch," she said. She blew out one candle, and then another, and the smoke made a little curl. Dax laughed, and now he is not afraid anymore.

Questions

1. What color is Dax the dragon?

_____

_____

2. What is Dax terribly afraid of?

_____

_____

3. How many candles were on Pia's cake?

_____

_____

4. Where did Dax hide when he saw the cake?

_____

_____

5. Why did Dax think the candles were too small?

_____

_____

6. What helped Dax stop being afraid?

_____

_____

Words to know

dragon: a big pretend animal with wings that can breathe fire
afraid: scared of something
candle: a stick of wax with a small flame
paw: the foot of an animal

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 Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

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

Circle: The Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

Easier · 69 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. He is green.
2. Birthday candles.
3. Five.
4. Under the table.
5. He might sit on them.
6. Pia showed him how to blow them out.

Triangle: The Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

This passage · 79 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. He is green.
2. Birthday candles.
3. Five.
4. Under the table.
5. He could not see them well and was afraid he might sit on them.
6. Pia showed him how to blow them out, and he watched her do it.

Square: The Dragon Who Feared Birthday Candles

Harder · 93 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.5

1. He is green.
2. Birthday candles.
3. Five.
4. Under the table.
5. He could not see them well and might sit on one.
6. Pia showed him how to blow them out, and he watched.