Name: _____ Date: _____

The Heron and the Shared Pond

Circle group

Hector the heron was in the pond. He was big. He said, "It is my pond!"

A frog came to swim. "Go," said Hector. A duck came to sip. "Go," said Hector.

Soon it was quiet. Hector felt sad and lonely. No one splashed.

"Come back," he said. "There is room for all." The frog swam. The duck sipped. Hector smiled.

Questions

1. What kind of animal was Hector?

_____

_____

2. What did Hector say about the pond?

_____

_____

3. Who did Hector tell to go away?

_____

_____

4. How did Hector feel when it was quiet?

_____

_____

5. Why did Hector call the animals back?

_____

_____

Words to know

heron: a tall bird with long legs that stands in water
lonely: sad because you are all alone
splash: to hit water so it flies up

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 Heron and the Shared Pond

Triangle group

Hector the heron stood in the pond. He was tall and gray, and he had picked the best spot in the whole pond. He said, "This pond is mine, and no one else may use it!"

A frog came to swim. "Go away," said Hector. A duck came to sip. "Go away," said Hector.

Soon the pond was still and quiet. Hector felt lonely. No one splashed. No one sang.

"Come back," he called. "There is room for all of us." The frog swam. The duck sipped. Hector smiled. A pond is much more fun when you share it.

Questions

1. What kind of animal was Hector?

_____

_____

2. What did Hector say about the pond?

_____

_____

3. Who did Hector tell to go away?

_____

_____

4. How did Hector feel when the pond was quiet?

_____

_____

5. What did Hector learn about the pond?

_____

_____

Words to know

heron: a tall bird with long legs that stands in water
lonely: sad because you are all alone
share: to let others use or have some of what you have
splash: to hit water so it flies up

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 Heron and the Shared Pond

Square group

Hector the heron stood proudly in the middle of the pond. He was tall and gray, and he had claimed the best spot of all. "This pond belongs to me!" he announced.

When a frog came to swim, Hector told him to go away. When a duck came to take a sip, Hector sent her off, too.

Before long, the pond was still and silent. Hector began to feel lonely. Nobody splashed, and nobody sang.

"Please come back," he called. "There is plenty of room for all of us." The frog swam in, and the duck sipped happily. Hector smiled, because a pond is far more fun when you share it.

Questions

1. What kind of animal was Hector?

_____

_____

2. What did Hector announce about the pond?

_____

_____

3. Which animals did Hector send away?

_____

_____

4. How did Hector feel when the pond became silent?

_____

_____

5. What lesson did Hector learn about the pond?

_____

_____

Words to know

heron: a tall bird with long legs that stands in water
lonely: sad because you are all alone
share: to let others use or have some of what you have
splash: to hit water so it flies up

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 Heron and the Shared Pond

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

Circle: The Heron and the Shared Pond

Easier · 61 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.5

1. A heron.
2. He said it was his.
3. A frog and a duck.
4. Lonely.
5. He felt lonely and saw there was room for all.

Triangle: The Heron and the Shared Pond

This passage · 99 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. A heron.
2. He said it was his.
3. A frog and a duck.
4. Lonely.
5. A pond is more fun when you share it.

Square: The Heron and the Shared Pond

Harder · 111 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.4

1. A tall gray heron.
2. That it belonged to him.
3. A frog and a duck.
4. Lonely.
5. A pond is more fun when you share it, because friends make it lively.