Name: _____ Date: _____

The Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

Circle group

Lift a rock in the garden. You may see a gray bug. It is a pill bug.

A pill bug likes dark, damp spots. It hides under rocks and logs. It eats old leaves.

Poke a pill bug and it curls up. It looks like a tiny gray ball. Its hard shell keeps it safe. Then it uncurls and walks off.

Questions

1. Where does a pill bug hide?

_____

_____

2. What does a pill bug eat?

_____

_____

3. What does a pill bug do when you poke it?

_____

_____

4. What color is a pill bug?

_____

_____

5. Why does a pill bug curl up?

_____

_____

Words to know

damp: a little bit wet
curl: to bend into a round shape
shell: the hard cover on the outside 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 Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

Triangle group

Lift up a rock in the garden. You may see a small gray bug. It is a pill bug.

A pill bug likes dark, damp places. It hides under rocks and logs. It eats old leaves that fall on the ground. It likes a quiet, cool home.

If you poke a pill bug, it curls up. It tucks in its head and legs. Now it looks like a tiny gray ball. The hard shell on its back keeps it safe. When all is calm, the bug uncurls and walks away.

Questions

1. Where does a pill bug like to hide?

_____

_____

2. What does a pill bug eat?

_____

_____

3. What does a pill bug do when you poke it?

_____

_____

4. What color is a pill bug?

_____

_____

5. Why does a pill bug curl up?

_____

_____

Words to know

damp: a little bit wet
curl: to bend into a round shape
shell: the hard cover on the outside of an animal
tuck: to push something in so it is hidden

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 Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

Square group

If you lift up a rock in the garden, you may discover a small gray bug underneath. It is called a pill bug.

A pill bug prefers dark, damp places, so it hides beneath rocks and logs. It feeds on old leaves that have fallen to the ground.

When something pokes a pill bug, it curls up and tucks in its head and legs. It then looks like a tiny gray ball, and the hard shell on its back protects it. Once everything is calm again, the bug uncurls and walks away.

Questions

1. Where does a pill bug like to hide during the day?

_____

_____

2. What does a pill bug feed on?

_____

_____

3. What does a pill bug do when something pokes it?

_____

_____

4. What color is a pill bug?

_____

_____

5. How does curling up protect a pill bug?

_____

_____

Words to know

damp: a little bit wet
curl: to bend into a round shape
shell: the hard cover on the outside of an animal

tuck: to push something in so it is hidden

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 Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

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

Circle: The Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

Easier · 61 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.6

1. Under rocks and logs.
2. Old leaves.
3. It curls up into a ball.
4. Gray.
5. Its hard shell keeps it safe.

Triangle: The Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

This passage · 90 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.1

1. Under rocks and logs.
2. Old leaves.
3. It curls up into a ball.
4. Gray.
5. The hard shell on its back keeps it safe.

Square: The Pill Bug Rolls Into a Ball

Harder · 92 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. Beneath rocks and logs, in dark and damp places.
2. Old leaves that have fallen to the ground.
3. It curls up into a tiny gray ball.
4. Gray.
5. The hard shell on its back covers the bug and keeps it safe.