Name: _____ Date: _____

The Town Crier Rings His Bell

Circle group

Long ago, a town had no TV. It had no phones. How did people hear the news?

A town crier told them. He walked down the road with a bell. Ring, ring, ring! People came out to listen.

Then he called out the news in a loud voice. People nodded and went back to work.

Now we read the news or watch it on a screen.

Questions

1. Who told the news in a town long ago?

_____

_____

2. What did the crier carry?

_____

_____

3. How did he call out the news?

_____

_____

4. What do we have now that a town did not have long ago?

_____

_____

5. Why did the crier ring the bell?

_____

_____

Words to know

crier: a person who calls out the news
news: new things that people want to know about
loud: with a big sound

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 Town Crier Rings His Bell

Triangle group

Long ago, a town had no TV. It had no phones. How did people hear the news?

A town crier told them. He walked down the road with a big bell. Ring, ring, ring! People came out to listen.

Then he called out the news in a loud voice. He might say that a market would open. He might say that a new baby was born. People nodded and went back to work.

Today, we read the news or watch it on a screen. But in some towns, a crier still rings a bell for fun.

Questions

1. Who told the news in a town long ago?

_____

_____

2. What did the crier carry?

_____

_____

3. How did he call out the news?

_____

_____

4. What does a town have today that it did not have long ago?

_____

_____

5. Why did the crier ring a bell first?

_____

_____

Words to know

crier: a person who calls out the news
news: new things that people want to know about
market: a place where people buy and sell things

loud: with a big sound

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 Town Crier Rings His Bell

Square group

Long ago, a town had no television and no telephones, so how did the people find out the news?

They listened to a town crier. He strolled down the road carrying a large bell, and he rang it again and again. Soon the neighbors came out of their houses to listen.

Then the crier called out the news in a loud, clear voice. He might announce that a market would open, or that a new baby had been born. The people nodded and went back to their work.

Today, we read the news or watch it on a screen, although in a few towns a crier still rings a bell just for fun.

Questions

1. Who brought the news to the people in a town long ago?

_____

_____

2. What did the crier carry as he walked?

_____

_____

3. How did the crier call out the news?

_____

_____

4. What does a town have today that it did not have long ago?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think the crier rang his bell before he spoke?

_____

_____

Words to know

crier: a person who calls out the news
news: new things that people want to know about
market: a place where people buy and sell things
loud: with a big sound

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 Town Crier Rings His Bell

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

Circle: The Town Crier Rings His Bell

Easier · 66 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. The town crier.
2. A bell.
3. In a loud voice.
4. TV and phones.
5. So people would come out to listen.

Triangle: The Town Crier Rings His Bell

This passage · 96 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.6

1. The town crier.
2. A big bell.
3. In a loud voice.
4. TV and phones.
5. So people would come out and listen to the news.

Square: The Town Crier Rings His Bell

Harder · 113 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.1

1. The town crier.
2. A large bell.
3. In a loud, clear voice.
4. Television and telephones.
5. To get the neighbors to come out and listen to the news.