Name: _____ Date: _____

The Tick in Dad's Toolbox

Circle group

Jo sat in the garage. She heard a sound. Tick, tick, tick.

It came from Dad's toolbox. Jo tapped the lid. Tick, tick, tick.

Jo lifted the lid. She moved a hammer. She moved the tape. Under it was a round white timer. It was still ticking!

Then it went ring! Jo jumped. Then she laughed.

Dad came in. "I used it for the glue," he said. "I forgot to turn it off." Jo turned the dial to zero. The garage was quiet.

Questions

1. Where was Jo sitting?

_____

_____

2. What sound did Jo hear?

_____

_____

3. What was under the tape?

_____

_____

4. What did Dad use the timer for?

_____

_____

5. Why did the timer go ring?

_____

_____

Words to know

garage: a building or room for a car and tools
toolbox: a box that holds tools
timer: a clock that rings after some time

dial: a round knob you turn

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 Tick in Dad's Toolbox

Triangle group

Jo sat in the garage. She heard a sound. Tick, tick, tick.

It came from Dad's toolbox. Jo did not know what it was. She tapped the lid. Tick, tick, tick.

Jo lifted the lid. She moved a hammer. She moved a roll of tape. Under the tape was a round white timer. It was still ticking!

Then it went ring! Jo jumped, and then she laughed.

Dad came in. "Oh, I used that timer for the glue," he said. "I forgot to turn it off." Jo turned the dial back to zero. Now the garage was quiet.

Questions

1. Where was Jo sitting?

_____

_____

2. What sound did Jo hear?

_____

_____

3. What did Jo find under the tape?

_____

_____

4. What did Dad use the timer for?

_____

_____

5. Why did the timer go ring?

_____

_____

Words to know

garage: a building or room for a car and tools
toolbox: a box that holds tools
timer: a clock that rings after some time

dial: a round knob you turn

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 Tick in Dad's Toolbox

Square group

Jo was sitting quietly in the garage when she heard a mysterious sound. Tick, tick, tick.

It was coming from inside Dad's toolbox. Jo was not sure what it could be, so she tapped on the lid. Tick, tick, tick.

Carefully, Jo lifted the lid and moved aside a hammer and a roll of tape. Underneath was a round white timer, and it was still ticking!

Suddenly it went ring! Jo jumped in surprise, and then she burst out laughing.

Dad walked in. "I used that timer while the glue dried," he said. "I forgot to switch it off." Jo turned the dial back to zero, and the garage was peaceful again.

Questions

1. Where was Jo sitting when she heard the sound?

_____

_____

2. What sound did Jo hear?

_____

_____

3. What was hidden under the tape?

_____

_____

4. What had Dad used the timer for?

_____

_____

5. Why did the timer suddenly ring?

_____

_____

Words to know

garage: a building or room for a car and tools
toolbox: a box that holds tools
timer: a clock that rings after some time
dial: a round knob you turn

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 Tick in Dad's Toolbox

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

Circle: The Tick in Dad's Toolbox

Easier · 83 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.4

1. In the garage.
2. Tick, tick, tick.
3. A round white timer.
4. To time the glue.
5. Its time was up.

Triangle: The Tick in Dad's Toolbox

This passage · 98 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.2

1. In the garage.
2. Tick, tick, tick.
3. A round white timer.
4. To time the glue.
5. The time ran out, and it was done counting.

Square: The Tick in Dad's Toolbox

Harder · 112 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.9

1. In the garage.
2. Tick, tick, tick.
3. A round white timer.
4. To time how long the glue took to dry.
5. The time it was set for had run out.