Name: _____ Date: _____

A House Built of Mammoth Bones

Circle group

Long ago, it was the Ice Age. The weather was cold. In some places, few trees grew. People needed a home. But there was not much wood.

So they used mammoth bones. A mammoth was a huge animal with long tusks and thick hair. It looked like an elephant. Mammoths are gone now.

People set big bones in a ring. They stacked more bones to make walls. Then they put skins on top. Inside, a small fire kept them warm.

Scientists found the leftovers of these homes.

Questions

1. What was the weather like in the Ice Age?

_____

_____

2. What was a mammoth?

_____

_____

3. What did people put on top of the bone walls?

_____

_____

4. What kept people warm inside?

_____

_____

5. Why did people build with bones?

_____

_____

Words to know

mammoth: a huge hairy animal with long tusks, like an elephant
tusks: the long, pointed teeth that stick out of an animal's mouth
skins: the outer coverings taken from animals

scientists: people who study the world to learn about it

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: _____

A House Built of Mammoth Bones

Triangle group

A very long time ago, it was the Ice Age. The weather was cold. In some places, few trees grew. People needed a home, but there was not much wood.

So they used something else. They used the big bones of mammoths. A mammoth was a huge animal with long tusks and thick hair. It looked like an elephant. Mammoths are gone now.

People set the large bones in a ring on the ground. They stacked more bones to make the walls. Then they probably covered the top with animal skins. Inside, a small fire kept them warm.

Scientists have found the leftovers of these homes. They help us see how people long ago solved a problem.

Questions

1. What was the weather like in the Ice Age?

_____

_____

2. What was a mammoth?

_____

_____

3. What did people probably put on top of the bone walls?

_____

_____

4. What kept people warm inside?

_____

_____

5. Why did people build with bones?

_____

_____

Words to know

mammoth: a huge hairy animal with long tusks, like an elephant
tusks: the long, pointed teeth that stick out of an animal's mouth
skins: the outer coverings taken from animals
scientists: people who study the world to learn about it

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: _____

A House Built of Mammoth Bones

Square group

A very long time ago, during the Ice Age, the weather was bitterly cold, and in some places hardly any trees grew. People still needed shelter, but there was very little wood available to build it.

Instead, they used the enormous bones of mammoths. A mammoth was a huge animal with long, curved tusks and thick hair, and it resembled an elephant. Mammoths no longer exist today.

People arranged the large bones in a ring on the ground and stacked more bones to form the walls. Then they probably draped animal skins across the top. Inside, a small fire kept everyone warm.

Scientists have discovered the remains of these homes, and they help us understand how people long ago solved a difficult problem.

Questions

1. What was the weather like during the Ice Age?

_____

_____

2. What was a mammoth?

_____

_____

3. What did people probably drape across the top of the bone walls?

_____

_____

4. What kept everyone warm inside the home?

_____

_____

5. Why did people build their homes with bones?

_____

_____

Words to know

mammoth: a huge hairy animal with long tusks, like an elephant
tusks: the long, pointed teeth that stick out of an animal's mouth
skins: the outer coverings taken from animals
scientists: people who study the world to learn about it

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: A House Built of Mammoth Bones

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

Circle: A House Built of Mammoth Bones

Easier · 87 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.1

1. It was cold.
2. A huge animal with long tusks and thick hair.
3. Animal skins.
4. A small fire.
5. There were few trees, so there was not much wood.

Triangle: A House Built of Mammoth Bones

This passage · 117 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. It was cold.
2. A huge animal with long tusks and thick hair.
3. Animal skins.
4. A small fire.
5. There were few trees, so there was not much wood.

Square: A House Built of Mammoth Bones

Harder · 123 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.5

1. It was bitterly cold.
2. A huge animal with long, curved tusks and thick hair.
3. Animal skins.
4. A small fire.
5. Hardly any trees grew, so there was very little wood.