Name: _____ Date: _____

A Town Counts Every Person

Circle group

A country can count all its people. This count is a census. In the United States, it happens every ten years.

A paper or a web form goes to each home. One person fills it out. It asks how many people live there. Each person is counted one time.

Why count? The count shows leaders how many people live in each place. A town with many new families may need a school. A town with more children may need parks.

The census is only for counting. When you are counted, you help your town plan.

Questions

1. What is a count of all the people called?

_____

_____

2. How often is the census in the United States?

_____

_____

3. What does the form ask about each home?

_____

_____

4. What might a town with many new families need?

_____

_____

5. How does the census help your town?

_____

_____

Words to know

census: a count of all the people who live in a place
form: a paper with spaces to fill in
plan: to think ahead about what to do

country: a land with its own leaders and laws

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 Town Counts Every Person

Triangle group

Did you know that a country can count all of its people? This count is called a census. In the United States, it happens every ten years.

A paper or a web form goes to each home. Someone in the home fills it out. The form asks how many people live there. Each person is counted one time.

Why count everyone? The count helps leaders see how many people live in each place. A town with many new families may need another school. A town with more children may need more parks.

The census does not tell the names of people to anyone outside of the job. It is only for counting. When you are counted, you help your town plan for what it needs.

Questions

1. What is the count of all the people in a country called?

_____

_____

2. How often does the census happen in the United States?

_____

_____

3. What does the form ask about each home?

_____

_____

4. What might a town with many new families need?

_____

_____

5. How does the census help your town?

_____

_____

Words to know

census: a count of all the people who live in a place
form: a paper with spaces to fill in
plan: to think ahead about what to do
country: a land with its own leaders and laws

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 Town Counts Every Person

Square group

Did you realize that a country can count every one of its people? This count is known as a census, and in the United States it takes place once every ten years.

A paper form or a web form is sent to each home, and one person there fills it out. The form asks how many people live in the home, and each person is counted just one time.

Why bother to count everyone? The results help leaders understand how many people live in each place. A town with many new families may need to build another school, while a town with more children may need more parks.

The census is used only for counting, and it does not tell people's names to anyone outside of the job. When you are counted, you help your town plan for what it needs.

Questions

1. What is the count of every person in a country called?

_____

_____

2. How often does the census take place in the United States?

_____

_____

3. What does the form ask about each home?

_____

_____

4. What might a town with many new families have to build?

_____

_____

5. In what way does the census help your town?

_____

_____

Words to know

census: a count of all the people who live in a place
form: a paper with spaces to fill in
plan: to think ahead about what to do
country: a land with its own leaders and laws

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 Town Counts Every Person

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

Circle: A Town Counts Every Person

Easier · 95 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. A census.
2. Every ten years.
3. How many people live there.
4. Another school.
5. It helps leaders plan for what the town needs.

Triangle: A Town Counts Every Person

This passage · 125 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.2

1. A census.
2. Every ten years.
3. How many people live there.
4. Another school.
5. It helps leaders plan for what the town needs.

Square: A Town Counts Every Person

Harder · 141 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.9

1. A census.
2. Once every ten years.
3. How many people live in it.
4. Another school.
5. It helps leaders plan for what the town needs.