Name: _____ Date: _____

An Acorn for the Missing Piece

Circle group

Ivy and Dev sat on the porch with a board game. Ivy rolled the dice. Then she looked in the box. "Oh no. My red car is gone."

"It is not in the box?" asked Dev.

"I lost it," said Ivy. Her eyes got wet. "We can't play."

Dev looked around. A small brown acorn lay by the step. He rubbed off the dirt.

"Here," he said. "The acorn can be your car."

"That is silly," said Ivy. But she smiled. She put it on the first square.

They played the whole game. The acorn rolled off twice. They laughed. Ivy won.

Later, Ivy found the red car under the couch. She kept the acorn too. She painted two wheels on it.

Questions

1. What game piece was missing?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev use for the car?

_____

_____

3. Where was the red car found?

_____

_____

4. What did Ivy paint on the acorn?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ivy keep the acorn?

_____

_____

Words to know

porch: a covered space at the front or back of a house
acorn: the small nut of an oak tree
dice: small cubes with dots used in games
square: one of the spaces on a game board

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: _____

An Acorn for the Missing Piece

Triangle group

Ivy and Dev sat on the porch with a board game. Ivy rolled the dice. Then she looked in the box. "Oh no," she said. "My little red car is gone."

"It is not in the box?" asked Dev.

"I lost it," said Ivy. Her eyes got wet. "We cannot play."

Dev looked around. A small brown acorn lay by the step. He picked it up and rubbed off the dirt.

"Here," he said. "The acorn can be your car."

"That is silly," said Ivy. But she smiled a little. She set it on the first square.

They played the whole game. The acorn rolled off the board twice. They laughed each time. Ivy won by one space.

The next week, Ivy found the red car under the couch. But she kept the acorn, too. She painted two tiny wheels on its side. Now the board game has a car and an acorn truck.

Questions

1. What game piece was missing?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev use in place of the car?

_____

_____

3. Where did Ivy find the red car?

_____

_____

4. What did Ivy do to the acorn at the end?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ivy keep the acorn after she found the car?

_____

_____

Words to know

porch: a covered space at the front or back of a house
acorn: the small nut of an oak tree
dice: small cubes with dots used in games
square: one of the spaces on a game board

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: _____

An Acorn for the Missing Piece

Square group

Ivy and Dev sat on the front porch with a board game spread out between them. Ivy rolled the dice and then peered into the box. "Oh no," she said. "My little red car has disappeared."

"It is not in the box?" asked Dev.

"I must have lost it," said Ivy, and her eyes filled with tears. "Now we cannot play."

Dev glanced around the porch. A small brown acorn was lying beside the step. He picked it up and rubbed the dirt off its shell.

"Here," he offered. "The acorn can be your car."

"That is ridiculous," said Ivy. But she smiled a little, and she set it on the first square.

They played the entire game. The acorn rolled off the board twice, and they laughed each time. Ivy won by a single space.

The following week, Ivy discovered the red car under the couch. However, she kept the acorn as well. She painted two tiny wheels on its side, and now the game has both a car and an acorn truck.

Questions

1. Which game piece had disappeared?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev offer as a replacement for the car?

_____

_____

3. Where did Ivy discover the red car?

_____

_____

4. What did Ivy do to the acorn at the end?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ivy decide to keep the acorn after she found her car?

_____

_____

Words to know

porch: a covered space at the front or back of a house
acorn: the small nut of an oak tree
dice: small cubes with dots used in games
square: one of the spaces on a game board

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: An Acorn for the Missing Piece

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

Circle: An Acorn for the Missing Piece

Easier · 122 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.7

1. Ivy's red car.
2. A small brown acorn.
3. Under the couch.
4. Two wheels.
5. It reminded her of how Dev helped her.

Triangle: An Acorn for the Missing Piece

This passage · 154 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.2

1. Ivy's little red car.
2. A small brown acorn.
3. Under the couch.
4. She painted two tiny wheels on its side.
5. It reminded her of how Dev helped her, and it had become part of the game.

Square: An Acorn for the Missing Piece

Harder · 174 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. Ivy's little red car.
2. A small brown acorn.
3. Under the couch.
4. She painted two tiny wheels on its side.
5. It reminded her how Dev had helped her, and it had become part of the game.