Name: _____ Date: _____

Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

Circle group

Ferdie Fox stood at the edge of a deep canyon. "Hello!" he shouted.

"Hello," said a voice far away.

"Who are you?" asked Ferdie.

"Who are you?" said the voice.

Ferdie frowned. "I asked first!"

"I asked first," said the voice.

Ferdie was cross. "You copycat!" he yelled.

"You copycat!" the voice yelled back.

Ferdie stomped his foot. A big bird sat in a tree. "Dear fox," said the bird, "that is an echo. Sound hits the rocks and comes back to you."

Ferdie blinked. He shouted, "You are a nice echo!"

"You are a nice echo!" came back. Ferdie laughed. He had a new friend, even if it said only his words.

Questions

1. Where did Ferdie Fox stand?

_____

_____

2. What did the voice say to hello?

_____

_____

3. Who told Ferdie about the echo?

_____

_____

4. What is an echo, said the bird?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ferdie think the voice was a copycat?

_____

_____

Words to know

canyon: a deep valley with steep rock sides
echo: a sound that bounces back so you hear it again
cross: a little bit angry
stomped: stepped down hard and loudly

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: _____

Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

Triangle group

Ferdie Fox stood at the edge of a deep canyon. "Hello!" he shouted.

"Hello," said a voice from far away.

"Who are you?" asked Ferdie.

"Who are you?" said the voice.

Ferdie frowned. "I asked first!"

"I asked first," said the voice.

Ferdie grew very cross. "You copycat!" he yelled.

"You copycat!" the voice yelled back.

Ferdie stomped his foot. A big bird watched from a tree. "Dear fox," said the bird, "that is only an echo. Sound bounces off the rocks and comes back to you."

Ferdie blinked. Then he shouted, "You are a nice echo!"

"You are a nice echo!" came the answer. Ferdie laughed. He had made a new friend, even if the friend only said his own words.

Questions

1. Where did Ferdie Fox stand?

_____

_____

2. What did the voice say when Ferdie said hello?

_____

_____

3. Who explained the echo to Ferdie?

_____

_____

4. According to the bird, what is an echo?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ferdie think the voice was a copycat?

_____

_____

Words to know

canyon: a deep valley with steep rock sides
echo: a sound that bounces back so you hear it again
cross: a little bit angry
stomped: stepped down hard and loudly

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: _____

Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

Square group

Ferdie Fox stood at the very edge of a deep, wide canyon. "Hello!" he shouted across the empty space.

"Hello," replied a voice from far away.

"Who are you?" asked Ferdie.

"Who are you?" said the voice.

Ferdie frowned. "I asked you first!"

"I asked you first," said the voice.

Ferdie grew extremely cross. "You are a copycat!" he yelled.

"You are a copycat!" the voice yelled right back.

Ferdie stomped his foot in frustration. A large bird watched him from a nearby tree. "My dear fox," said the bird, "that is only an echo. Sound bounces off the rocky walls and returns to your ears."

Ferdie blinked. Then he shouted, "You are a very nice echo!"

"You are a very nice echo!" came the answer. Ferdie laughed. He had made a new friend, even though the friend could only repeat his own words.

Questions

1. Where did Ferdie Fox stand when he shouted hello?

_____

_____

2. What did the voice reply when Ferdie said hello?

_____

_____

3. Who explained the echo to Ferdie?

_____

_____

4. According to the bird, what is an echo?

_____

_____

5. Why did Ferdie think the voice was a copycat?

_____

_____

Words to know

canyon: a deep valley with steep rock sides
echo: a sound that bounces back so you hear it again
cross: a little bit angry
stomped: stepped down hard and loudly

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: Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

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

Circle: Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

Easier · 113 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.7

1. At the edge of a deep canyon.
2. It said hello back.
3. A big bird in a tree.
4. Sound that hits the rocks and comes back.
5. It said everything he said.

Triangle: Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

This passage · 122 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.1

1. At the edge of a deep canyon.
2. It said hello back.
3. A big bird in a tree.
4. Sound that bounces off the rocks and comes back.
5. It repeated everything he said.

Square: Ferdie Fox and the Echo That Talked Back

Harder · 144 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.3

1. At the very edge of a deep, wide canyon.
2. It replied hello back.
3. A large bird in a nearby tree.
4. Sound that bounces off the rocky walls and returns to your ears.
5. It kept repeating everything that he said.