Name: _____ Date: _____

Good Night Taps on the Wall

Circle group

Lila had a new bed. She was in a new apartment. She could not sleep. The pipes went clunk. The street went whoosh.

Then she heard a sound. Tap, tap. It came from the wall.

Lila tapped back. Tap, tap.

The next day, a boy waved in the hall. "I am Gus," he said. "I live next door. Was that you?"

"Yes," said Lila. "I could not sleep."

"Me too, at first," said Gus. "Let's make a code. One tap is good night."

That night, Lila tapped one time. One tap came back. She went to sleep.

Questions

1. Why could Lila not sleep?

_____

_____

2. Where did the tapping come from?

_____

_____

3. Who lived next door?

_____

_____

4. What did one tap mean?

_____

_____

5. Why did Lila feel better at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

apartment: a home that is one part of a bigger building
pipes: tubes inside walls that carry water
code: a secret way to share a message

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: _____

Good Night Taps on the Wall

Triangle group

Lila had a new bed in a new apartment. She could not sleep. Every sound was strange. The pipes went clunk. The street went whoosh.

Then she heard it. Tap, tap. It came from the other side of her wall.

Lila tapped back. Tap, tap.

The other side went tap, tap, tap. Lila tapped three times too. It was like a secret game.

The next day, a boy waved at her in the hall. "I am Gus," he said. "I live next door. Was that you?"

"Yes," said Lila. "I could not sleep."

"Me too, when I moved here," said Gus. "Let's make a code. One tap means good night. Two taps mean see you at the bus."

That night, Lila tapped one time. One tap came back. She closed her eyes, and the strange sounds did not feel strange anymore.

Questions

1. Why could Lila not sleep at first?

_____

_____

2. Where did the tapping sound come from?

_____

_____

3. Who lived next door to Lila?

_____

_____

4. What did one tap mean in their code?

_____

_____

5. Why did the sounds not feel strange to Lila anymore?

_____

_____

Words to know

apartment: a home that is one part of a bigger building
pipes: tubes inside walls that carry water
strange: new and not like what you know
code: a secret way to share a message

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: _____

Good Night Taps on the Wall

Square group

Lila had a new bed in a new apartment, and she could not fall asleep. Every sound seemed strange. The pipes went clunk, and the street outside went whoosh.

Then she heard something different. Tap, tap. It was coming from the other side of her bedroom wall.

Lila tapped back. Tap, tap. Immediately, someone answered with three taps, and Lila tapped three times as well. It felt like a secret game.

The next day, a boy waved at her in the hallway. "I am Gus," he said. "I live next door. Was that you tapping?"

"Yes," said Lila. "I could not sleep."

"I had the same trouble when I moved here," said Gus. "Let's invent a code. One tap means good night, and two taps mean I will see you at the bus."

That night, Lila tapped one time, and one tap came back. She closed her eyes, and the strange sounds no longer felt strange at all.

Questions

1. Why was Lila unable to fall asleep at first?

_____

_____

2. Where did the tapping sound come from?

_____

_____

3. Who lived next door to Lila?

_____

_____

4. What did one tap mean in their code?

_____

_____

5. Why did the sounds stop feeling strange to Lila?

_____

_____

Words to know

apartment: a home that is one part of a bigger building
pipes: tubes inside walls that carry water
strange: new and not like what you know
code: a secret way to share a message

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: Good Night Taps on the Wall

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

Circle: Good Night Taps on the Wall

Easier · 97 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -1.3

1. Everything was new and the sounds were strange.
2. The wall.
3. A boy named Gus.
4. Good night.
5. She had a friend next door who tapped back.

Triangle: Good Night Taps on the Wall

This passage · 141 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.5

1. Her bed and apartment were new, and every sound was strange.
2. From the other side of her wall.
3. A boy named Gus.
4. Good night.
5. She had a friend close by who tapped back, so she felt safe.

Square: Good Night Taps on the Wall

Harder · 158 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. Her bed and apartment were new, and every sound seemed strange.
2. From the other side of her bedroom wall.
3. A boy named Gus.
4. Good night.
5. She knew a friend was close by and would tap back, so she felt safe.