Name: _____ Date: _____

Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

Circle group

Kofi made a kite from a paper bag and two sticks. He took it to a big field on a windy day. He held the string and ran.

The kite jumped up. Then it spun round and fell in the grass. Kofi tried again. It spun and fell again.

His sister Ama said, "It needs a tail. A tail keeps a kite straight."

Kofi found a long strip of cloth. He tied bows on it. He fixed it to the bottom. Then he ran again.

This time the kite went up. It did not spin. It rose over the trees. Kofi smiled.

Questions

1. What did Kofi use to make his kite?

_____

_____

2. What did the kite do the first two times?

_____

_____

3. Who said the kite needed a tail?

_____

_____

4. What did Kofi tie on the cloth?

_____

_____

5. Why did the kite stop spinning?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies in the wind on a string
strip: a long, thin piece of something
field: a wide open piece of land with grass

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: _____

Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

Triangle group

Kofi made a kite from a paper bag and two sticks. He took it to the big field on a windy day. He held the string and ran.

The kite jumped into the air. Then it spun round and round and crashed in the grass. Kofi ran to get it. He tried again. It spun and crashed once more.

His sister Ama looked at the kite. "It needs a tail," she said. "A tail helps a kite stay straight."

Kofi found a long strip of cloth in his bag. He tied bows along it and fixed it to the bottom. Then he ran across the field again.

This time the kite climbed. It swayed, but it did not spin. It rose up, up, over the trees. Kofi held on tight and smiled at the sky.

Questions

1. What did Kofi use to make his kite?

_____

_____

2. What did the kite do the first two times?

_____

_____

3. Who said that the kite needed a tail?

_____

_____

4. What did Kofi tie along the cloth strip?

_____

_____

5. Why did the kite stop spinning after Kofi added the tail?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies in the wind on a string
strip: a long, thin piece of something
swayed: moved gently from side to side
field: a wide open piece of land with grass

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: _____

Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

Square group

Kofi built a kite out of a paper bag and two thin sticks. On a breezy afternoon, he carried it to the big field at the edge of town. He gripped the string tightly and began to run.

The kite leaped into the air. Then it spun round and round and crashed into the grass. Kofi hurried over to pick it up and tried again. Once more it spun and crashed.

His sister Ama studied the kite carefully. "It needs a tail," she said. "A long tail helps a kite stay straight in the wind."

Kofi found a long strip of cloth in his bag. He tied bows along its length and fastened it to the bottom of the kite. Then he sprinted across the field again.

This time the kite climbed steadily. It swayed a little, but it did not spin. It rose up, up, high over the trees, and Kofi held on tight and smiled at the sky.

Questions

1. What did Kofi build his kite out of?

_____

_____

2. What did the kite do the first two times Kofi tried?

_____

_____

3. Who said that the kite needed a tail?

_____

_____

4. What did Kofi tie along the strip of cloth?

_____

_____

5. Why did the kite stop spinning after Kofi added the tail?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies in the wind on a string
strip: a long, thin piece of something
swayed: moved gently from side to side
field: a wide open piece of land with grass

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: Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

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

Circle: Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

Easier · 102 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. A paper bag and two sticks.
2. It spun and fell in the grass.
3. His sister Ama.
4. Bows.
5. The tail kept it straight.

Triangle: Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

This passage · 135 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. A paper bag and two sticks.
2. It spun round and round and crashed in the grass.
3. His sister Ama.
4. Bows.
5. The tail helped keep the kite straight.

Square: Kofi's Kite Needs a Longer Tail

Harder · 160 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.4

1. A paper bag and two thin sticks.
2. It spun round and round and crashed into the grass.
3. His sister Ama.
4. Bows.
5. The long tail helped the kite stay straight in the wind.