Name: _____ Date: _____

Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

Circle group

Lena played table tennis at the rec center. The ball was small. The paddle felt strange.

Her coach showed her how to serve. "Toss the ball up," she said. "Tap it when it comes down."

Lena tossed the ball. She swung. Whiff! She hit air. She tried again. The ball hit her nose. A boy giggled.

Lena took a deep breath. She tossed the ball higher. She watched it fall. Tap! The ball flew over the net.

"Good serve!" said the coach. Lena grinned and tried again.

Questions

1. Where did Lena play table tennis?

_____

_____

2. What did the coach say to do with the ball?

_____

_____

3. What happened the second time Lena served?

_____

_____

4. What did Lena do to hit the good serve?

_____

_____

5. How did Lena feel at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

serve: to hit the ball to start a point in a game
paddle: a flat tool with a handle used to hit a ball
whiff: a swing that misses the ball
giggled: laughed in a soft, silly way

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: _____

Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

Triangle group

At the rec center, Lena played table tennis for the first time. The ball was small and light. The paddle felt strange in her hand.

Her coach showed her how to serve. "Toss the ball up," she said. "Then tap it when it comes down."

Lena tossed the ball. She swung. Whiff! She hit only air. She tried again. The ball bonked her on the nose. A boy at the next table giggled.

Lena took a deep breath. She tossed the ball a little higher. She watched it all the way down. Tap! The ball bounced on her side, then flew over the net.

"Good serve!" called the coach. Lena grinned so wide that her cheeks hurt. She went to get the ball and tried again.

Questions

1. Where did Lena play table tennis?

_____

_____

2. What did the coach tell Lena to do with the ball?

_____

_____

3. What happened the second time Lena tried to serve?

_____

_____

4. What did Lena do differently when she hit the good serve?

_____

_____

5. How did Lena feel when the coach called out good serve?

_____

_____

Words to know

serve: to hit the ball to start a point in a game
paddle: a flat tool with a handle used to hit a ball
whiff: a swing that misses the ball
giggled: laughed in a soft, silly way

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: _____

Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

Square group

At the neighborhood rec center, Lena played table tennis for the very first time. The ball was tiny and light, and the paddle felt strange in her hand.

Her coach showed her how to serve. "Toss the ball straight up," she explained. "Then tap it gently as it comes back down."

Lena tossed the ball and swung with all her might. Whiff! She hit nothing but air. She tried a second time, and the ball bonked her right on the nose. A boy at the next table giggled.

Lena took a deep breath. This time she tossed the ball a little higher and watched it all the way down. Tap! The ball bounced on her side of the table and then flew over the net.

"Good serve!" called the coach. Lena grinned so widely that her cheeks hurt, and she hurried off to get the ball so she could try again.

Questions

1. Where did Lena play table tennis for the first time?

_____

_____

2. What did the coach tell Lena to do with the ball?

_____

_____

3. What happened the second time Lena tried to serve?

_____

_____

4. What did Lena change when she hit the good serve?

_____

_____

5. How did Lena feel when the coach praised her serve?

_____

_____

Words to know

serve: to hit the ball to start a point in a game
paddle: a flat tool with a handle used to hit a ball
whiff: a swing that misses the ball
giggled: laughed in a soft, silly way

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: Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

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

Circle: Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

Easier · 87 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.5

1. At the rec center.
2. Toss it up and tap it when it comes down.
3. The ball hit her on the nose.
4. She tossed the ball higher and watched it fall.
5. Happy, because she grinned.

Triangle: Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

This passage · 126 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0

1. At the rec center.
2. Toss it up and tap it when it comes down.
3. The ball bonked her on the nose.
4. She tossed the ball higher and watched it all the way down.
5. Proud and happy, because she grinned very wide.

Square: Lena's Wobbly Table Tennis Serve

Harder · 151 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. At the neighborhood rec center.
2. Toss it straight up and tap it gently as it comes back down.
3. The ball bonked her right on the nose.
4. She tossed the ball higher and watched it all the way down.
5. Proud and happy, because her grin was so wide that her cheeks hurt.