Name: _____ Date: _____

Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

Circle group

In Japan, many people ride trains. A train ride can be long. Riders like to eat on the way.

Many stations sell lunch boxes for train trips. They are called ekiben. The box is small and neat. It is easy to hold on your lap.

Inside, there is rice and a few other foods. Each food has its own space. The foods do not mix.

Each region has its own boxes. A town by the sea might sell fish. A hilly town might sell mountain vegetables. A rider can taste the place she visits.

Questions

1. What are ekiben?

_____

_____

2. Where are they sold?

_____

_____

3. What is inside the box?

_____

_____

4. Why does each food have its own space?

_____

_____

5. How can a rider taste the place she visits?

_____

_____

Words to know

station: a place where trains stop for riders
region: a part of a country or the world
neat: tidy and in good order

lap: the flat place on top of your legs when you sit

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: _____

Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

Triangle group

In Japan, many people ride trains. A train ride can be long, so riders like to eat on the way.

Many stations have shops that sell lunch boxes for train trips. These boxes are called ekiben. Each box is small and neat. It is easy to hold on your lap.

Inside, there is usually rice, plus little bits of other foods. Each part sits in its own space, so the foods do not mix together.

Each region has its own boxes. A box from a town by the sea might hold fish. A box from a hilly town might hold mountain vegetables. So a rider can taste the place she is visiting.

Questions

1. What are ekiben?

_____

_____

2. Where are the lunch boxes sold?

_____

_____

3. What is usually inside the box?

_____

_____

4. Why does each food sit in its own space?

_____

_____

5. How can a rider taste the place she is visiting?

_____

_____

Words to know

station: a place where trains stop for riders
region: a part of a country or the world
neat: tidy and in good order

lap: the flat place on top of your legs when you sit

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: _____

Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

Square group

In Japan, a great many people travel by train from one place to another. Since a train ride can last for hours, riders enjoy eating a meal along the way.

At numerous stations, shops sell lunch boxes designed especially for train journeys. These boxes are known as ekiben. Each box is small and neat, and it is easy to balance on your lap.

Inside, there is usually rice along with small portions of other foods. Every food sits in its own little space, so the different foods never mix together.

The most interesting part is that each region has its own special boxes. A box from a town beside the sea might contain fish, while a box from a hilly town might hold vegetables from the mountains. In this way, a rider can taste the place that she is visiting.

Questions

1. What are ekiben?

_____

_____

2. Where do shops sell these lunch boxes?

_____

_____

3. What is usually inside the box?

_____

_____

4. Why does every food sit in its own little space?

_____

_____

5. In what way can a rider taste the place she is visiting?

_____

_____

Words to know

station: a place where trains stop for riders
region: a part of a country or the world
neat: tidy and in good order
lap: the flat place on top of your legs when you sit

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: Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

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

Circle: Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

Easier · 94 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. Lunch boxes for train trips.
2. At train stations.
3. Rice and a few other foods.
4. So the foods do not mix.
5. She can buy a box with foods from that region.

Triangle: Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

This passage · 112 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3

1. Lunch boxes made for train trips.
2. At train stations.
3. Rice and little bits of other foods.
4. So the foods do not mix together.
5. She can buy a box with foods from that region.

Square: Lunch Boxes You Buy at a Train Station

Harder · 140 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.6

1. Lunch boxes designed especially for train journeys.
2. At stations.
3. Rice along with small portions of other foods.
4. So the different foods never mix together.
5. She can buy a box that holds foods from that region.