Name: _____ Date: _____

Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

Circle group

Mossy was a small green dragon. She lived near a pond. In winter, the pond froze. The ducks could not swim. They stood on the ice. They looked sad.

"I wish we could swim," said a duck named Pim.

Mossy took a big breath. She blew out fire. But the fire was too big! It melted the whole pond.

"Oh no," said Mossy. "Now there is no ice."

She tried again. This time she blew out soft, warm air. It melted one round hole in the ice.

The ducks splashed in the hole. The children skated around it. Everyone had a place to play.

Mossy kept the hole open all winter.

Questions

1. What color was Mossy?

_____

_____

2. Why were the ducks sad?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong with the fire?

_____

_____

4. How did Mossy fix it?

_____

_____

5. Why was a small hole better?

_____

_____

Words to know

froze: turned hard and icy from the cold
melted: turned from ice into water

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: _____

Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

Triangle group

Mossy was a small green dragon who lived near a pond. In winter, the pond froze. The ducks could not swim, and they stood on the ice with sad faces.

"I wish we could swim," said a duck named Pim.

Mossy puffed out her chest. She breathed out a little fire. But the fire was too big! It melted the whole pond into a puddle.

"Oh no," said Mossy. "Now we have no ice at all."

She tried again. This time she breathed out soft, warm air, like a sigh. It melted one round hole in the middle of the ice.

The ducks splashed in the hole, and the children skated around it. Everyone had a place to play.

Mossy kept the hole open all winter, one gentle breath at a time.

Questions

1. What color was Mossy?

_____

_____

2. Why were the ducks sad?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong when Mossy breathed out fire?

_____

_____

4. How did Mossy fix the problem?

_____

_____

5. Why was a small hole better than a melted pond?

_____

_____

Words to know

froze: turned hard and icy from the cold
puffed: blew out a quick breath of air
melted: turned from ice into water
gentle: soft and careful, not rough

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: _____

Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

Square group

Mossy was a small green dragon who lived beside a quiet pond. Every winter, the pond froze solid. The ducks could no longer swim, so they stood on the slippery ice with sad faces.

"I wish we could paddle again," said a duck named Pim.

Mossy puffed out her chest and breathed a burst of fire. But the flames were far too big! They melted the entire pond into one enormous puddle.

"Oh no," said Mossy. "Now we have no ice at all."

She tried a second time. This time she breathed out soft, warm air, like a long sigh. It melted a single round hole in the middle of the ice.

The ducks splashed happily in the hole, and the children skated in circles around it. Everyone had a place to play.

Mossy kept the hole open all winter long, one gentle breath at a time.

Questions

1. What kind of dragon was Mossy?

_____

_____

2. Why did the ducks have sad faces?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong when Mossy breathed fire?

_____

_____

4. How did Mossy solve the problem the second time?

_____

_____

5. Why was one small hole better than a melted pond?

_____

_____

Words to know

froze: turned hard and icy from the cold
puffed: blew out a quick breath of air
melted: turned from ice into water
gentle: soft and careful, not rough

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: Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

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

Circle: Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

Easier · 111 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. She was green.
2. The pond froze, so they could not swim.
3. It was too big and melted the whole pond.
4. She blew soft, warm air to melt one round hole.
5. The ducks could swim, and the children could still skate.

Triangle: Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

This passage · 132 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. She was green.
2. The pond froze, so they could not swim.
3. The fire was too big and melted the whole pond.
4. She breathed out soft, warm air to melt one round hole.
5. The ducks had water to swim in, and the children still had ice to skate on.

Square: Mossy the Dragon and the Frozen Pond

Harder · 147 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.3

1. A small green dragon.
2. The pond froze solid, so they could not swim.
3. The flames were too big and melted the entire pond.
4. She breathed out soft, warm air that melted a single round hole.
5. The ducks had water to swim in, and the children still had ice to skate on.