Name: _____ Date: _____

Six Sides in a Honeycomb

Circle group

Look at a honeycomb. It has tiny rooms. Each room is a cell. Bees make cells from wax.

Each cell has the same shape. It is a hexagon. A hexagon has six sides.

The cells fit together. There are no gaps. The side of one cell is the side of the next cell.

This is a smart way to build. Many cells fit in a small space. Cells hold honey. Some hold baby bees.

You can draw hexagons. See how they fit.

Questions

1. What are the little rooms in a honeycomb called?

_____

_____

2. What do bees make cells from?

_____

_____

3. How many sides does a hexagon have?

_____

_____

4. What do some cells hold?

_____

_____

5. Why is it good that the cells have no gaps?

_____

_____

Words to know

honeycomb: a block of wax cells that bees make to store honey
cell: one small room in a honeycomb
hexagon: a shape with six sides and six corners
wax: a soft, oily material that bees make

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: _____

Six Sides in a Honeycomb

Triangle group

Look closely at a honeycomb. It is full of tiny little rooms. Each room is called a cell. Bees make the cells out of wax.

Every cell has the same shape. It is a hexagon. A hexagon has six sides and six corners.

The cells fit together with no gaps. Bees do not need to fill in holes. The sides of one cell are the sides of the cells next to it.

This is a smart way to build. The bees can fit many cells into a small space. The cells are used to hold honey. Some hold baby bees.

If you draw hexagons on paper, you can see how they fit together too.

Questions

1. What are the little rooms in a honeycomb called?

_____

_____

2. What do bees make the cells out of?

_____

_____

3. How many sides does a hexagon have?

_____

_____

4. What are some of the cells used for?

_____

_____

5. Why is it good that the cells fit together with no gaps?

_____

_____

Words to know

honeycomb: a block of wax cells that bees make to store honey
cell: one small room in a honeycomb
hexagon: a shape with six sides and six corners
wax: a soft, oily material that bees make

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: _____

Six Sides in a Honeycomb

Square group

Examine a honeycomb carefully, and you will find that it is filled with tiny rooms. Each room is called a cell, and bees build the cells out of wax.

Every cell has precisely the same shape. It is a hexagon, which has six straight sides and six corners.

The cells fit snugly together without any gaps. The bees never have to fill in empty holes, because the sides of one cell are also the sides of the cells beside it.

This is a clever way to build, since the bees can squeeze a great many cells into a small space. Some cells are used to store honey, and others hold baby bees.

If you draw hexagons on paper, you can see for yourself how well they fit together.

Questions

1. What are the tiny rooms in a honeycomb called?

_____

_____

2. What do bees build the cells out of?

_____

_____

3. How many sides and corners does a hexagon have?

_____

_____

4. What are some of the cells used for?

_____

_____

5. Why is it helpful that the cells fit together without gaps?

_____

_____

Words to know

honeycomb: a block of wax cells that bees make to store honey
cell: one small room in a honeycomb
hexagon: a shape with six sides and six corners
wax: a soft, oily material that bees make

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: Six Sides in a Honeycomb

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

Circle: Six Sides in a Honeycomb

Easier · 82 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. Cells.
2. Wax.
3. Six sides.
4. Honey, and baby bees.
5. Many cells fit in a small space.

Triangle: Six Sides in a Honeycomb

This passage · 114 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. Cells.
2. Wax.
3. Six sides.
4. Holding honey, and holding baby bees.
5. The bees can fit many cells into a small space.

Square: Six Sides in a Honeycomb

Harder · 128 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. Cells.
2. Wax.
3. Six sides and six corners.
4. Storing honey, and holding baby bees.
5. The bees can fit a great many cells into a small space.