Name: _____ Date: _____

Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

Circle group

An icicle is a long spike of ice. It hangs from a roof. You see icicles on cold, sunny winter days.

Snow sits on a roof. The sun shines. Some snow melts into water. The water runs to the edge.

At the edge, the air is cold. A drop hangs there and starts to freeze. Another drop slides down over it. It freezes too.

Each day more drops freeze. The icicle gets longer. It points down because water is pulled down.

Icicles can be heavy and sharp. Do not stand under one.

Questions

1. Where do icicles hang?

_____

_____

2. What melts the snow on the roof?

_____

_____

3. What happens to a drop at the cold edge?

_____

_____

4. Why does the icicle point down?

_____

_____

5. Why should you not stand under an icicle?

_____

_____

Words to know

icicle: a long spike of ice that hangs down
melts: turns from ice or snow into water
edge: the outside line where something ends
spike: a long, thin, pointed shape

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: _____

Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

Triangle group

Look up at a roof after a snowfall. You might spot a pointy spike of ice hanging down. People call it an icicle. It shows up when winter days are cold but the sun is out.

Snow lies on the roof. The sun warms it, and a bit of snow turns into water. The water trickles toward the edge of the roof.

The air at the edge is freezing. A drop gathers there and turns to ice. The next drop slides over the first one and turns to ice too.

Drop after drop, the spike gets longer. It points to the ground, since water is always pulled down.

An icicle can be heavy and sharp. Keep away from it, and never stand beneath one.

Questions

1. Where do icicles hang?

_____

_____

2. What melts the snow on the roof?

_____

_____

3. What happens to a drop of water at the cold edge?

_____

_____

4. Why does the icicle point down?

_____

_____

5. Why should you not stand under an icicle?

_____

_____

Words to know

icicle: a long spike of ice that hangs down
edge: the outside line where something ends
spike: a long, thin, pointed shape

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.
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Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

Square group

An icicle is a long spike of ice that dangles from the edge of a roof. You often see icicles on cold, sunny days in the middle of winter.

Here is how one begins. Snow rests on a roof, and when the sun shines, some of the snow melts into water. The water trickles down the roof until it reaches the edge.

At the edge, the air is bitterly cold, so a drop of water hanging there starts to freeze. Another drop slides down and drips over the first one, and it freezes as well.

Every day, more drops run down, freeze, and add a little more length. Slowly, the icicle grows longer. It always points downward because water is pulled toward the ground.

Icicles can be heavy and sharp, so stay clear of them and never stand underneath one.

Questions

1. Where does an icicle dangle from?

_____

_____

2. What causes the snow on the roof to melt?

_____

_____

3. What happens to a drop of water hanging at the cold edge?

_____

_____

4. Why does an icicle always point downward?

_____

_____

5. Why should you never stand underneath an icicle?

_____

_____

Words to know

icicle: a long spike of ice that hangs down
melts: turns from ice or snow into water
edge: the outside line where something ends
spike: a long, thin, pointed shape

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: Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

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

Circle: Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

Easier · 92 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.3

1. From the edge of a roof.
2. The sun.
3. It starts to freeze.
4. Water is pulled down.
5. It can be heavy and sharp, and it could fall.

Triangle: Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

This passage · 124 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. From the edge of a roof.
2. The sun.
3. It starts to freeze.
4. The water is pulled down.
5. It can be heavy and sharp, and it could fall.

Square: Sunny Roofs Grow Spiky Winter Icicles

Harder · 140 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. The edge of a roof.
2. The sun shining on it.
3. It starts to freeze.
4. Water is pulled toward the ground.
5. It can be heavy and sharp, and it could fall on you.