Name: _____ Date: _____

# The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

Circle group

Mama Crab was tired of Clip's sideways walk. "Walk straight, Clip," she said. "Walk like the gulls."

Clip tried. He bumped a rock. He tripped on a shell. "It is too hard," he said.

"Watch me," said Mama Crab. "I will show you."

She puffed out her chest. She tried to step ahead. She wobbled left. She wobbled right. Then she fell flat on her shell. Everyone laughed, and Mama laughed, too.

"Hmm," she said. "Crabs are built to go sideways. I should not ask you to walk like a gull."

Clip ran off sideways, fast as a flash. Mama ran after him with a grin.

## Questions

**1. What did Mama Crab want Clip to do?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened when Clip tried to walk straight?**

_____

_____

**3. What happened when Mama Crab tried?**

_____

_____

**4. Who did Mama say walked straight?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Mama change her mind?**

_____

_____

**6. What is the lesson of the story?**

_____

## Words to know

sideways: toward the side instead of forward
tripped: caught your foot and almost fell
wobbled: moved in a shaky, uneven 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: _____

# The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

Triangle group

Mama Crab was tired of her son walking sideways. "Walk straight, Clip," she said. "Walk forward like the gulls."

Clip tried. He bumped into a rock. He tripped over a shell. "It is too hard," he said.

"Then watch me first," said Clip's little sister, who was just as sideways as he was. But Mama Crab said, "I will show you how it is done."

She puffed out her chest and tried to step forward. She wobbled left. She wobbled right. Then she fell flat on her shell, and everyone laughed, even Mama.

"Hmm," she said. "Sideways is how crabs are built. I should not ask you to walk like a gull."

Clip scuttled off sideways, quick as a flash, and Mama followed him with a grin.

## Questions

**1. What did Mama Crab want Clip to do?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened when Clip tried to walk straight?**

_____

_____

**3. What happened when Mama Crab tried?**

_____

_____

**4. Who did Mama say walked straight?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Mama change her mind?**

_____

_____

**6. What lesson does the story teach?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

sideways: toward the side instead of forward
tripped: caught your foot and almost fell
wobbled: moved in a shaky, uneven way
scuttled: ran with quick little steps

## 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: _____

# The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

Square group

Mama Crab had grown weary of watching her son scuttle sideways. "Walk straight, Clip," she insisted. "Move forward the way the gulls do."

Clip tried his very best. He bumped into a boulder and tripped over a shell. "It is far too difficult," he complained.

"Then I will demonstrate how it is done," said Mama Crab.

She puffed out her chest and attempted to march forward. She wobbled to the left, then to the right. Finally she toppled flat onto her shell, and everyone on the beach burst out laughing, even Mama herself.

"Hmm," she said thoughtfully. "Sideways is simply how crabs are built. I should not expect you to walk like a gull."

Clip scuttled off sideways, quick as a flash, and Mama hurried after him with a big grin.

## Questions

**1. What did Mama Crab insist that Clip do?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened when Clip tried his very best?**

_____

_____

**3. What happened when Mama Crab tried to march forward?**

_____

_____

**4. Which animals did Mama Crab say walk straight?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Mama Crab change her mind?**

_____

_____

**6. What lesson does the story teach?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

sideways: toward the side instead of forward
tripped: caught your foot and almost fell
wobbled: moved in a shaky, uneven way
scuttled: ran with quick little steps

## 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: The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

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

### Circle: The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

Easier · 106 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.2

1. Walk straight ahead.
2. He bumped a rock and tripped on a shell.
3. She wobbled and fell flat on her shell.
4. The gulls.
5. She saw that crabs are made to walk sideways.
6. Do not ask someone to be what they are not.

### Triangle: The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

This passage · 127 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.3

1. Walk straight forward.
2. He bumped into a rock and tripped over a shell.
3. She wobbled and fell flat on her shell.
4. The gulls.
5. She learned that crabs are built to walk sideways.
6. Do not ask someone to be what they are not made to be.

### Square: The Crab Who Taught Walking Straight

Harder · 131 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.6

1. Walk straight forward like the gulls.
2. He bumped into a boulder and tripped over a shell.
3. She wobbled and toppled flat onto her shell.
4. The gulls.
5. She realized that crabs are built to walk sideways.
6. You should not expect others to be something they were not made to be.