Name: _____ Date: _____

The Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

Circle group

Skaters glide on the ice at a rink. Their blades scratch it. The ice gets rough and bumpy. It is not fun to skate on.

Then a driver comes out in a big machine. It goes back and forth on the rink. A blade shaves the top of the ice. The machine scoops up the snow. Then it spreads warm water. The water fills the scratches. It freezes smooth and shiny.

The ice looks like a big mirror.

The driver steers in careful lines. No spot gets missed. A rink does this many times a day. Skaters always get good ice.

Questions

1. What happens to the ice when skaters glide on it?

_____

_____

2. What does the blade of the machine do first?

_____

_____

3. What does the machine spread at the end?

_____

_____

4. Why does the water make the ice smooth?

_____

_____

5. Why does the driver steer in careful lines?

_____

_____

Words to know

rink: a smooth flat place for skating
shaves: cuts off a very thin layer
scoops: lifts up with a curved tool or hand

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 Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

Triangle group

Skaters glide across the ice at a rink. Their blades scratch it and cut little grooves. After a while, the ice is rough and bumpy. Skating on it is not much fun.

Then a driver comes out in a big machine for cleaning ice. It drives slowly back and forth across the rink. First, a blade shaves a thin layer off the top. Next, the machine scoops up the snow and scraps. Last, it spreads a thin sheet of warm water. The water fills in the scratches and freezes into a smooth, shiny layer.

When the driver is done, the ice looks like a giant mirror.

This job is about making things smooth and even. The driver must steer in careful lines so no spot gets missed. A rink does this many times a day, so skaters always have good ice.

Questions

1. What happens to the ice when skaters glide on it?

_____

_____

2. What does the blade of the machine do first?

_____

_____

3. What does the machine spread at the end?

_____

_____

4. Why does the water make the ice smooth?

_____

_____

5. Why must the driver steer in careful lines?

_____

_____

Words to know

rink: a smooth flat place for skating
grooves: thin lines cut into something
shaves: cuts off a very thin layer
scoops: lifts up with a curved tool or hand

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 Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

Square group

Skaters glide gracefully across the ice at a rink, but their blades scratch the surface and carve tiny grooves into it. After a while, the ice becomes rough and bumpy, and skating on it is no longer much fun.

At that point, a driver arrives in a large machine built for cleaning ice. It travels slowly back and forth across the rink. First, a blade shaves a thin layer from the top. Next, the machine scoops up the snow and scraps it has made. Finally, it spreads a thin sheet of warm water, which fills in the scratches and freezes into a smooth, shiny layer.

When the driver has finished, the ice resembles a giant mirror.

The work is all about making a surface even. The driver must steer in careful lines so that no spot is missed. Because a rink does this many times a day, skaters always have good ice.

Questions

1. What happens to the ice when skaters glide across it?

_____

_____

2. What does the machine's blade do first?

_____

_____

3. What does the machine spread at the end?

_____

_____

4. Why does the warm water leave the ice smooth?

_____

_____

5. Why must the driver steer in careful lines?

_____

_____

Words to know

rink: a smooth flat place for skating
grooves: thin lines cut into something
shaves: cuts off a very thin layer
scoops: lifts up with a curved tool or hand

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 Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

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

Circle: The Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

Easier · 101 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.7

1. Their blades scratch it, and it gets rough and bumpy.
2. It shaves the top of the ice.
3. Warm water.
4. It fills the scratches and then freezes.
5. So no spot gets missed.

Triangle: The Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

This passage · 141 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. Their blades scratch it, and it gets rough and bumpy.
2. It shaves a thin layer off the top.
3. A thin sheet of warm water.
4. It fills in the scratches and then freezes.
5. So no spot on the ice gets missed.

Square: The Ice Machine Driver at the Rink

Harder · 152 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.2

1. Their blades scratch it, and it becomes rough and bumpy.
2. It shaves a thin layer from the top.
3. A thin sheet of warm water.
4. It fills in the scratches and then freezes into a smooth layer.
5. So that no spot on the ice is missed.