Name: _____ Date: _____

# The Library Inside a Walnut

Circle group

Tomas found a walnut under a big tree. He shook it. Tick, tick, tick, it went.

He cracked it open. Inside was a tiny library! It had thin shelves. The books were as small as rice.

A tiny librarian looked up. "Shh," she said. "Use a small voice."

"I will," Tomas whispered. "But the books are so little. How can I read them?"

The librarian gave him a drop of dew. "Look through this," she said.

Tomas looked. The tiny words grew big. He read about a snail who loved to race. He read about a beetle who sang in the rain.

Then he put the walnut back. He left it under the tree for the next reader.

## Questions

**1. Where did Tomas find the walnut?**

_____

_____

**2. What was inside the walnut?**

_____

_____

**3. How big were the books?**

_____

_____

**4. What did the librarian give Tomas?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Tomas leave the walnut under the tree?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

walnut: a nut with a hard, wrinkled shell
librarian: a person who takes care of books
dew: tiny drops of water found on grass in the morning

## 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 Library Inside a Walnut

Triangle group

Tomas found a walnut under the big tree. When he shook it, something inside went tick, tick, tick.

He cracked it open very slowly. Inside was a tiny library! It had shelves as thin as pins. The books were the size of rice grains.

A mouse-sized librarian looked up. "Shh," she whispered. "Please use a small voice."

"I will," Tomas whispered back. "But how can I read these books? They are so little."

The librarian handed him a drop of dew. "Look through this," she said.

Tomas peered through the dew. The tiny words grew big and clear. He read about a snail who loved to race and a beetle who sang in the rain.

When he was done, he put the walnut back together. Then he tucked it under the tree for the next reader.

## Questions

**1. Where did Tomas find the walnut?**

_____

_____

**2. What was inside the walnut?**

_____

_____

**3. How big were the books?**

_____

_____

**4. What did the librarian give Tomas to help him read?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Tomas put the walnut back under the tree?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

walnut: a nut with a hard, wrinkled shell
librarian: a person who takes care of books
dew: tiny drops of water found on grass in the morning
peered: looked closely at something

## 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 Library Inside a Walnut

Square group

Tomas found a walnut lying beneath the big tree. When he shook it, something inside went tick, tick, tick.

He carefully cracked it open. Inside was a miniature library! The shelves were as thin as pins, and the books were no bigger than grains of rice.

A librarian the size of a mouse glanced up. "Shh," she whispered. "Please use a very small voice."

"I will," Tomas whispered back. "But how can I possibly read such tiny books?"

The librarian handed him a single drop of dew. "Look through this," she said.

Tomas peered through the shimmering drop, and the tiny words grew large and clear. He read about a snail who loved to race and a beetle who sang in the rain.

When he finished, he fit the walnut back together and tucked it beneath the tree, so the next reader could find it.

## Questions

**1. Where did Tomas find the walnut?**

_____

_____

**2. What was inside the walnut?**

_____

_____

**3. How big were the books?**

_____

_____

**4. What did the librarian hand Tomas so he could read?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Tomas tuck the walnut back beneath the tree?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

walnut: a nut with a hard, wrinkled shell
librarian: a person who takes care of books
dew: tiny drops of water found on grass in the morning
peered: looked closely at something

## 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 Library Inside a Walnut

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

### Circle: The Library Inside a Walnut

Easier · 118 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1

1. Under a big tree.
2. A tiny library.
3. As small as rice.
4. A drop of dew.
5. The next reader could find it.

### Triangle: The Library Inside a Walnut

This passage · 137 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.9

1. Under the big tree.
2. A tiny library.
3. They were the size of rice grains.
4. A drop of dew.
5. He wanted the next reader to find it.

### Square: The Library Inside a Walnut

Harder · 145 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.6

1. Beneath the big tree.
2. A miniature library.
3. No bigger than grains of rice.
4. A single drop of dew.
5. He wanted the next reader to be able to find it.