Name: _____ Date: _____

The Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

Circle group

A lighthouse is a tall tower near the sea. At the top is a very bright light. It warns sailors that rocks or shallow water are close. Then they can steer their ships away.

The light does not stay on one spot. A big glass lens sits around the lamp. The lens turns slowly. It gathers the light into a beam, like a flashlight. The beam sweeps over the water.

A sailor far away sees a flash each time the beam goes by. Each lighthouse has its own pattern of flashes. One may flash once and wait. Another may flash twice and wait. A sailor counts the flashes to know which lighthouse it is.

That helps a ship find its way on a dark night.

Questions

1. Where is a lighthouse built?

_____

_____

2. What does the light warn sailors about?

_____

_____

3. What turns slowly around the lamp?

_____

_____

4. What does the lens do with the light?

_____

_____

5. How can a sailor tell which lighthouse it is?

_____

_____

6. Why does the light need to turn?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light for ships
sailors: people who work on ships
lens: a curved piece of glass that bends light
beam: a strong line of light

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 Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

Triangle group

A lighthouse is a tall tower built near the sea. At the top is a very bright light. It has a big job. It warns sailors that rocks or shallow water are close by, so they can steer their ships away.

The light does not stay on one spot. A big glass lens sits around the lamp, and the lens slowly turns. It gathers the light into a beam, a bit like a flashlight beam. As the lens turns, the beam sweeps across the water.

A sailor far away sees a flash each time the beam passes by. Every lighthouse has its own pattern of flashes. One may flash once, then wait. Another may flash twice and wait. By counting the flashes, a sailor can tell which lighthouse it is.

That helps a ship find its way along the coast, even on a dark night.

Questions

1. Where is a lighthouse built?

_____

_____

2. What does the light warn sailors about?

_____

_____

3. What turns slowly around the lamp?

_____

_____

4. What does the lens do with the light?

_____

_____

5. What can a sailor do to tell which lighthouse it is?

_____

_____

6. Why does a lighthouse light need to turn?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light for ships
sailors: people who work on ships
lens: a curved piece of glass that bends light
beam: a strong line of light
coast: the land next to the sea

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 Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

Square group

A lighthouse is a tall tower built close to the sea, with a very bright light at the top. It has an important job. It warns sailors that rocks or shallow water are nearby, so that they are able to steer their ships safely away.

The light does not stay fixed on one spot. A large glass lens sits around the lamp, and the lens slowly turns. It gathers the light into a beam, a bit like the beam of a flashlight, and as the lens turns, the beam sweeps across the water.

A sailor who is far away sees a flash each time the beam passes by. Every lighthouse has its own pattern of flashes. One may flash once and then wait, while another may flash twice and then wait. By counting the flashes, a sailor can tell which lighthouse it is.

That knowledge helps a ship find its way along the coast, even on the darkest night.

Questions

1. Where is a lighthouse built?

_____

_____

2. What does the light warn sailors about?

_____

_____

3. What slowly turns around the lamp?

_____

_____

4. What does the lens do with the light?

_____

_____

5. What can a sailor do to tell which lighthouse it is?

_____

_____

6. Why does a lighthouse light need to turn?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light for ships
sailors: people who work on ships
lens: a curved piece of glass that bends light
beam: a strong line of light
coast: the land next to the sea

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 Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

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

Circle: The Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

Easier · 125 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.7

1. Near the sea.
2. Rocks or shallow water close by.
3. A big glass lens.
4. It gathers it into a beam.
5. Count the flashes.
6. The beam sweeps over the water so ships can see it from any side.

Triangle: The Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

This passage · 145 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. Near the sea.
2. Rocks or shallow water close by.
3. A big glass lens.
4. It gathers the light into a beam.
5. Count the flashes.
6. The beam sweeps over the water so ships far away in any direction can see it.

Square: The Lighthouse Beam Turns Round and Round

Harder · 159 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. Close to the sea.
2. Rocks or shallow water nearby.
3. A large glass lens.
4. It gathers the light into a beam.
5. Count the flashes.
6. The beam sweeps across the water so ships far away on any side can see it.