Name: _____ Date: _____

The Little Wheel on a Can Opener

Circle group

Many foods come in a metal can. A can is strong. It keeps food fresh. How do we get the lid off? We use a can opener.

A hand can opener has a small, sharp wheel. It also has a wheel with teeth. The toothed wheel grips the rim of the can. You clamp the opener on the edge. When you squeeze the handles, the sharp wheel goes down into the lid.

Then you turn a knob. The toothed wheel pulls the can around. The sharp wheel cuts the lid. It works like a pizza cutter.

The wheel goes all the way around. The lid comes loose. The edge can be sharp, so ask a grown-up for help.

Questions

1. Why do people put food in cans?

_____

_____

2. What are the two wheels on a can opener for?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you squeeze the handles?

_____

_____

4. What do you turn to make the can go around?

_____

_____

5. What tool works like the sharp wheel?

_____

_____

6. Why should a child ask a grown-up for help?

_____

_____

Words to know

rim: the outside edge of a round thing
grips: holds on tightly
clamp: to fasten tight so it will not slip
knob: a round handle that you turn
fresh: not spoiled and good to eat

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 Little Wheel on a Can Opener

Triangle group

Many foods come in a metal can. A can is strong and keeps the food fresh. But how do we get the lid off? We use a can opener.

A hand can opener has a small, sharp wheel. It also has a toothed wheel that grips the rim of the can. To start, you clamp the opener on the edge of the can. Squeezing the handles pushes the sharp wheel down into the lid.

Next, you turn a knob. The toothed wheel grips the rim and pulls the can around. As the can turns, the sharp wheel cuts along the edge of the lid, a little bit at a time. It works like a pizza cutter.

When the wheel goes all the way around, the lid comes loose. Be careful. The edge can be sharp, so ask a grown-up for help.

Questions

1. Why do people put food in cans?

_____

_____

2. What are the two wheels on a hand can opener for?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you squeeze the handles?

_____

_____

4. What do you turn to make the can go around?

_____

_____

5. What common tool works like the sharp wheel?

_____

_____

6. Why should a child ask a grown-up for help with a can lid?

_____

_____

Words to know

rim: the outside edge of a round thing
grips: holds on tightly
clamp: to fasten tight so it will not slip
knob: a round handle that you turn
fresh: not spoiled and good to eat

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 Little Wheel on a Can Opener

Square group

Many kinds of food are sold in a metal can, because a can is strong and keeps the food fresh. But how do we get the lid off? We use a can opener.

A hand can opener has a small, sharp wheel, and it also has a toothed wheel that grips the rim of the can. To begin, you clamp the opener onto the edge of the can. When you squeeze the handles together, the sharp wheel is pushed down into the lid.

Next, you turn a knob. The toothed wheel holds the rim and pulls the can around, and as the can turns, the sharp wheel cuts along the edge of the lid, a little bit at a time. It works much like a pizza cutter.

Once the wheel has traveled all the way around, the lid comes loose. Be careful, though. The cut edge can be sharp, so ask a grown-up for help.

Questions

1. Why are many foods sold in a metal can?

_____

_____

2. What are the two wheels on a hand can opener for?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you squeeze the handles together?

_____

_____

4. What do you turn to make the can go around?

_____

_____

5. What common tool works much like the sharp wheel?

_____

_____

6. Why should a child ask a grown-up for help with a can lid?

_____

_____

Words to know

rim: the outside edge of a round thing
grips: holds on tightly
clamp: to fasten tight so it will not slip
knob: a round handle that you turn
fresh: not spoiled and good to eat

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 Little Wheel on a Can Opener

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

Circle: The Little Wheel on a Can Opener

Easier · 119 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. A can is strong and keeps food fresh.
2. One is sharp and cuts. One has teeth and grips the rim.
3. The sharp wheel goes down into the lid.
4. A knob.
5. A pizza cutter.
6. The cut edge can be sharp.

Triangle: The Little Wheel on a Can Opener

This passage · 142 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.7

1. A can is strong and keeps the food fresh.
2. One is sharp and cuts. One has teeth and grips the rim.
3. The sharp wheel pushes down into the lid.
4. A knob.
5. A pizza cutter.
6. The cut edge can be sharp.

Square: The Little Wheel on a Can Opener

Harder · 156 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.2

1. A can is strong and keeps the food fresh.
2. One is sharp and cuts. One has teeth and grips the rim.
3. The sharp wheel is pushed down into the lid.
4. A knob.
5. A pizza cutter.
6. The cut edge can be sharp.