Name: _____ Date: _____

The Pelican and the Giant Fish

Circle group

Pedro the pelican lived on a dock by the sea. One day he caught a huge fish. It was as long as his wing.

"I will eat it all," he said. He opened his beak wide and tried to gulp it down. The fish would not go. It stuck halfway. Pedro could only wiggle and squeak.

A small crab sat on the rocks. "Why not share?" he asked. "Drop it and eat bit by bit."

Pedro dropped the fish on the dock. He ate a bite, then another. The crab and two gulls ate, too.

Soon it was gone. Everyone was full. Pedro laughed. "I wanted it all, but a little was plenty."

Questions

1. Where did Pedro live?

_____

_____

2. What happened when Pedro tried to gulp the fish?

_____

_____

3. Who gave Pedro good advice?

_____

_____

4. Who ate some of the fish?

_____

_____

5. Why was Pedro better off after he dropped the fish?

_____

_____

6. What is the lesson of the story?

_____

Words to know

dock: a flat platform built out over the water
wiggle: to move with small, quick twists
share: to give some of what you have to others

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 Pelican and the Giant Fish

Triangle group

Pedro the pelican lived on a dock by the sea. One windy morning he caught the biggest fish he had ever seen. It was as long as his wing.

"I will eat it all by myself," he said. He opened his beak wide and tried to swallow it. The fish would not go down. It stuck halfway, and Pedro could only wiggle and squeak.

A small crab watched from the rocks. "Why not share it?" the crab asked. "Drop it and take a bite at a time."

Pedro was shy, but he dropped the fish on the dock. He ate a bite, then another. The crab and two gulls ate a few bites, too.

Soon it was gone, and everyone was full. Pedro laughed. "I wanted it all, but a little piece was plenty."

Questions

1. Where did Pedro live?

_____

_____

2. What happened when Pedro tried to swallow the fish whole?

_____

_____

3. Who gave Pedro good advice?

_____

_____

4. Who else ate some of the fish?

_____

_____

5. Why was Pedro better off after he dropped the fish?

_____

_____

6. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

dock: a flat platform built out over the water
swallow: to move food down your throat
wiggle: to move with small, quick twists
share: to give some of what you have to others

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 Pelican and the Giant Fish

Square group

Pedro the pelican lived on a weathered dock beside the sea. One blustery morning he caught the largest fish he had ever seen, which was nearly as long as his own wing.

"I intend to eat every bit of it myself," he boasted. He opened his enormous beak and attempted to swallow the fish whole. It would not budge. It lodged halfway down, and Pedro could only wiggle and squeak helplessly.

A small crab observed him from the rocks. "Why not share it?" the crab suggested. "Drop it and take one bite at a time."

Pedro felt a little embarrassed, but he set the fish down on the dock. He ate a bite, and then another. The crab and two gulls joined in and ate a few bites as well.

Before long the fish was gone and everyone was full. Pedro chuckled. "I wanted the entire thing, but a small piece turned out to be plenty."

Questions

1. Where did Pedro live?

_____

_____

2. What happened when Pedro tried to swallow the fish whole?

_____

_____

3. Who offered Pedro sensible advice?

_____

_____

4. Besides Pedro, who ate some of the fish?

_____

_____

5. Why was Pedro better off once he set the fish down?

_____

_____

6. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

dock: a flat platform built out over the water
swallow: to move food down your throat
wiggle: to move with small, quick twists
share: to give some of what you have to others

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 Pelican and the Giant Fish

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

Circle: The Pelican and the Giant Fish

Easier · 113 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. On a dock by the sea.
2. It got stuck halfway.
3. A small crab.
4. The crab and two gulls.
5. He could eat it in bites and did not get stuck.
6. Do not be greedy, because taking too much brings trouble.

Triangle: The Pelican and the Giant Fish

This passage · 134 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. On a dock by the sea.
2. It got stuck halfway.
3. A small crab.
4. The crab and two gulls.
5. He could eat it bite by bite and did not get stuck.
6. Do not be greedy, because taking too much can cause trouble.

Square: The Pelican and the Giant Fish

Harder · 156 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.7

1. On a weathered dock beside the sea.
2. It lodged halfway down his throat.
3. A small crab.
4. The crab and two gulls.
5. He could eat it one bite at a time without choking or getting stuck.
6. Greed causes trouble, and a small share is often enough.