Name: _____ Date: _____

The Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

Circle group

Go outside on a sunny morning. Look at your shadow. It is long and thin. Look again at lunchtime. It is short! Your shadow shrank.

A shadow is made when something blocks light. You block the sun. A dark shape falls on the ground.

In the morning the sun is low. Its light comes in sideways. It stretches your shadow. At midday the sun is high. Its light comes from above. Your shadow is short.

In the evening the sun is low again. Your shadow is long again. Do not look at the sun. Look at the ground.

Questions

1. What happens to your shadow at lunchtime?

_____

_____

2. What makes a shadow?

_____

_____

3. Where is the sun in the morning?

_____

_____

4. Why is your shadow long in the evening?

_____

_____

5. A tree has a short shadow at midday. Where is the sun?

_____

_____

Words to know

shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
blocks: gets in the way so light cannot pass
midday: the middle of the day, around noon
stretches: makes longer

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 Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

Triangle group

Stand outside on a sunny morning and look at your shadow. It is long and thin. Look again at lunchtime. Now it is short and round. Your shadow shrank!

A shadow is made when something blocks light. You block the sunlight, so a dark shape falls on the ground behind you.

The sun seems to move across the sky each day. In the morning it is low. Its light comes in sideways and stretches your shadow far along the ground. At midday the sun is high. Its light comes down from above, so your shadow is short.

In the evening the sun sinks low again. Then your shadow grows long once more. Never look right at the sun. Just watch the ground.

Questions

1. What happens to your shadow at lunchtime?

_____

_____

2. What makes a shadow?

_____

_____

3. Where is the sun in the morning?

_____

_____

4. Why is your shadow long in the evening?

_____

_____

5. A tree has its shortest shadow at midday. Where is the sun then?

_____

_____

Words to know

shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
blocks: gets in the way so light cannot pass
midday: the middle of the day, around noon
stretches: makes longer

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 Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

Square group

Stand outside on a sunny morning and study your shadow. It is long and thin. If you check again at lunchtime, it will be short and round. Your shadow has shrunk!

A shadow forms whenever something blocks light. Your body blocks the sunlight, so a dark shape falls on the ground behind you.

The sun appears to travel across the sky each day. In the morning it hangs low, and its light arrives at a slant, stretching your shadow far along the ground. At midday the sun is high overhead. Its light pours down from above, so your shadow is short.

In the evening the sun sinks low once more, and your shadow grows long again. Never look straight at the sun. Simply watch the ground.

Questions

1. What happens to your shadow by lunchtime?

_____

_____

2. What causes a shadow to form?

_____

_____

3. Where is the sun in the morning?

_____

_____

4. Why does your shadow grow long again in the evening?

_____

_____

5. A tree has its shortest shadow at midday. Where must the sun be then?

_____

_____

Words to know

shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
blocks: gets in the way so light cannot pass
midday: the middle of the day, around noon

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 Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

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

Circle: The Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

Easier · 98 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1

1. It gets short.
2. Something blocks the light.
3. Low in the sky.
4. The sun is low again.
5. High in the sky.

Triangle: The Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

This passage · 122 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. It gets short and round.
2. Something blocks the light.
3. Low in the sky.
4. The sun is low again and its light comes in sideways.
5. High in the sky.

Square: The Shadow That Shrinks at Lunchtime

Harder · 126 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.3

1. It becomes short and round.
2. Something blocks the light.
3. Low in the sky.
4. The sun sinks low once more.
5. High overhead in the sky.