Name: _____ Date: _____

The Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

Circle group

A bagpipe is a loud, bright instrument. Many people link it with Scotland. It has a soft bag.

The player blows air into the bag. The bag holds the air like a balloon. Then the player squeezes the bag with one arm. The air goes out through the pipes. That makes the sound.

The bag stays full. So the music does not stop when the player takes a breath.

Some pipes play the tune. Other pipes are called drones. They hum one steady note. That is why a bagpipe can sound like a band.

Questions

1. What is the secret part of a bagpipe?

_____

_____

2. How does the player get air into the bag?

_____

_____

3. What does the player do to push air out?

_____

_____

4. What do the drone pipes do?

_____

_____

5. Why does the music not stop when the player takes a breath?

_____

_____

6. Why can a bagpipe sound like a band?

_____

_____

Words to know

bagpipe: an instrument with a bag of air and several pipes
drones: pipes that hum one steady note
instrument: a tool for making music
tune: the main song that you can hum
steady: staying the same, not changing

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 Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

Triangle group

A bagpipe is a loud, bright instrument that many people link with Scotland. It has a secret that other wind instruments do not have. The secret is a soft bag.

The player blows air into the bag through a short pipe. The bag holds the air, a bit like a balloon. Then the player squeezes the bag with one arm. The air is pushed out through the other pipes, and that makes the sound.

Because the bag stays full, the music does not stop when the player takes a breath. The player can keep the tune going for a long time.

Some of the pipes play the tune. Other pipes, called drones, hum one steady note the whole time. That is why a bagpipe can sound like a whole band.

Questions

1. What is the secret part of a bagpipe?

_____

_____

2. How does the player get air into the bag?

_____

_____

3. What does the player do to push air out of the bag?

_____

_____

4. What do the drone pipes do?

_____

_____

5. Why does the music keep going when the player takes a breath?

_____

_____

6. Why might a bagpipe sound like a whole band?

_____

_____

Words to know

bagpipe: an instrument with a bag of air and several pipes
drones: pipes that hum one steady note
instrument: a tool for making music
tune: the main song that you can hum
steady: staying the same, not changing

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 Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

Square group

A bagpipe is a loud, bright instrument that many people associate with Scotland. Unlike most other wind instruments, it has a clever secret: a soft bag that stores air.

The player blows air into the bag through a short pipe, and the bag holds that air much as a balloon would. Then the player squeezes the bag with one arm, which forces the air out through the remaining pipes. That moving air is what produces the sound.

Because the bag remains full, the music does not stop whenever the player pauses to take a breath. The player can therefore keep a tune going for a very long time.

Some of the pipes play the melody. Other pipes, known as drones, hum a single steady note throughout the song. That explains why one bagpipe can sound like an entire band.

Questions

1. What clever secret does a bagpipe have that most wind instruments lack?

_____

_____

2. How does the player fill the bag with air?

_____

_____

3. What does the player do to force air out of the bag?

_____

_____

4. What do the drones do throughout the song?

_____

_____

5. Why can the player keep the tune going while breathing?

_____

_____

6. Why does a single bagpipe sound like an entire band?

_____

_____

Words to know

bagpipe: an instrument with a bag of air and several pipes
drones: pipes that hum one steady note
instrument: a tool for making music
tune: the main song that you can hum
steady: staying the same, not changing

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 Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

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

Circle: The Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

Easier · 94 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.6

1. A soft bag that holds air.
2. By blowing into it.
3. Squeezes the bag with one arm.
4. They hum one steady note.
5. The bag is still full of air.
6. Some pipes play the tune and the drones hum at the same time.

Triangle: The Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

This passage · 130 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. A soft bag that holds air.
2. By blowing through a short pipe.
3. Squeezes the bag with one arm.
4. They hum one steady note the whole time.
5. The bag is still full of air, so it keeps pushing air out.
6. Some pipes play the tune while the drones play a steady note at the same time.

Square: The Bagpipe Bag That Never Runs Out of Air

Harder · 139 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. A soft bag that stores air.
2. By blowing through a short pipe.
3. Squeezes the bag with one arm.
4. They hum a single steady note.
5. The full bag keeps pushing air through the pipes during the breath.
6. The melody pipes and the drone pipes sound together at the same time.