Name: _____ Date: _____

A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

Circle group

Have you ever pulled a burr off your sock? A man named George de Mestral did. It gave him a big idea. He was from Switzerland.

One day, he took a walk with his dog. They walked in the countryside. At home, burrs were stuck on his clothes. They were on the dog's fur, too. They were hard to pull off. He asked why they stuck so well.

He looked at a burr under a microscope. It had tiny hooks all over. The hooks caught on little loops in his clothes and the dog's fur.

George could copy this. He made a strip with tiny hooks. He made a strip with soft loops. He pressed them together, and they stuck. He pulled, and they came apart. It took him a long time to get it right.

Today, hook and loop tape is on shoes, jackets, and backpacks.

Questions

1. Where did George de Mestral walk with his dog?

_____

_____

2. What was stuck on his clothes and the dog's fur?

_____

_____

3. What did he see under the microscope?

_____

_____

4. What are the two strips of hook and loop tape made of?

_____

_____

5. Name one place hook and loop tape is used today?

_____

_____

6. How did the walk help George invent something?

_____

_____

Words to know

burr: a prickly seed case that sticks to clothes and fur
microscope: a tool that makes tiny things look much bigger
hooks: small curved pieces that can catch on something
loops: small rings made by a bent thread
countryside: land outside of towns and cities

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: _____

A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

Triangle group

Have you ever pulled a prickly burr off your sock? A man from Switzerland named George de Mestral did, and it gave him a big idea.

One day, he went for a walk in the countryside with his dog. When they got home, burrs were stuck all over his clothes and the dog's fur. They were hard to pull off. He wondered why they held on so tightly.

He looked at a burr under a microscope. He saw that it was covered with tiny hooks. The hooks caught on the little loops in his clothes and in the dog's fur.

George thought that he could copy this. He made one strip with many tiny hooks and another strip with many soft loops. When the two strips were pressed together, they stuck. When he pulled them apart, they came free with a rip. It took him a long time to get it right.

Today, hook and loop tape is on shoes, jackets, and backpacks.

Questions

1. Where did George de Mestral go for a walk?

_____

_____

2. What was stuck to his clothes and his dog's fur?

_____

_____

3. What did he see when he looked at a burr under a microscope?

_____

_____

4. What are the two strips of hook and loop tape made of?

_____

_____

5. Name one place where hook and loop tape is used today?

_____

_____

6. How did a walk with his dog help George invent something?

_____

_____

Words to know

burr: a prickly seed case that sticks to clothes and fur
microscope: a tool that makes tiny things look much bigger
hooks: small curved pieces that can catch on something
loops: small rings made by a bent thread
countryside: land outside of towns and cities

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: _____

A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

Square group

Have you ever tugged a prickly burr off your sock? A Swiss man named George de Mestral did, and the experience sparked a remarkable idea.

One day, he took a stroll through the countryside with his dog. When they arrived home, burrs were clinging to his clothes and to the dog's fur, and they were difficult to remove. He began to wonder why they held on so stubbornly.

Examining a burr under a microscope, he discovered that it was covered with tiny hooks. Those hooks were catching on the little loops in his clothing and in the dog's fur.

George realized that he might be able to imitate nature. He made one strip with countless tiny hooks and another with countless soft loops. When the two strips were pressed together, they stuck fast, and when he pulled them apart, they separated with a ripping sound. It took him a long time to perfect the design.

Today, hook and loop tape can be found on shoes, jackets, and backpacks.

Questions

1. Where did George de Mestral take a stroll with his dog?

_____

_____

2. What was clinging to his clothes and to the dog's fur?

_____

_____

3. What did he discover when he examined a burr under a microscope?

_____

_____

4. How are the two strips of hook and loop tape different?

_____

_____

5. Name one place where hook and loop tape is found today?

_____

_____

6. How did an ordinary walk with his dog lead George to an invention?

_____

_____

Words to know

burr: a prickly seed case that sticks to clothes and fur
microscope: a tool that makes tiny things look much bigger
hooks: small curved pieces that can catch on something
loops: small rings made by a bent thread
countryside: land outside of towns and cities

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: A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

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

Circle: A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

Easier · 147 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.9

1. In the countryside.
2. Burrs.
3. A burr covered with tiny hooks.
4. One has tiny hooks and one has soft loops.
5. On shoes, jackets, or backpacks.
6. He saw how burrs stuck, looked closely, and copied the hooks and loops.

Triangle: A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

This passage · 163 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. In the countryside.
2. Burrs.
3. It was covered with tiny hooks.
4. One strip has tiny hooks and the other has soft loops.
5. On shoes, jackets, or backpacks.
6. He noticed how burrs held on, studied them, and copied the hooks and loops.

Square: A Walk, a Dog, and Burrs That Became Hook Tape

Harder · 168 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.7

1. Through the countryside.
2. Burrs.
3. It was covered with tiny hooks.
4. One strip has tiny hooks and the other has soft loops.
5. On shoes, jackets, or backpacks.
6. He noticed how burrs held on, studied them closely, and copied the hooks and loops.