Name: _____ Date: _____

Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

Circle group

At recess, Nia and Keisha wanted to jump double dutch. Two ropes turn in opposite ways. One person jumps in the middle. That takes three people, and they had two.

"Let's ask Wen," said Keisha. Wen was new. He sat by the fence.

Wen said yes. "My cousin showed me once," he said.

The first try was a mess. The ropes got tangled. Nia fell down. Wen turned too slow, and Keisha turned too fast.

"Let's count out loud," said Wen. "One, two, three, jump!"

They counted. The ropes moved in a steady beat. Nia stepped in. She hopped ten times. Then she tripped. Everyone cheered.

Wen was not alone by the fence again.

Questions

1. How many people does double dutch need?

_____

_____

2. Who did the girls ask to join?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong on the first try?

_____

_____

4. What helped the ropes move together?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Wen sat by the fence?

_____

_____

6. How did the game change things for Wen?

_____

_____

Words to know

recess: a break from class when children can play
tangled: twisted together in a knot
steady: even and not changing
cheered: shouted happily to show support

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: _____

Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

Triangle group

At recess, Nia and Keisha wanted to jump double dutch. That means two long ropes turn in opposite directions while a jumper hops in the middle. But two turners and a jumper make three people, and they were only two.

"We could ask Wen," said Keisha. Wen was new and usually sat by the fence.

Nia was nervous. What if Wen did not know how to turn a rope? But Wen said yes right away. "My cousin showed me once," he said.

The first try was a mess. The ropes tangled, and Nia landed in a heap. The second try was no better. Wen turned too slowly, and Keisha turned too fast.

"Let's count out loud," said Wen. "One, two, three, jump!"

They counted together, and the ropes started to move in a steady beat, slap, slap, slap. Nia waited, then stepped in. She hopped ten times before she tripped. Everyone cheered anyway.

After that, Wen was never alone by the fence again.

Questions

1. How many people does double dutch need?

_____

_____

2. Who did the girls ask to be the third person?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong on the first two tries?

_____

_____

4. What idea from Wen helped the ropes move together?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Wen usually sat by the fence?

_____

_____

6. How did the game change things for Wen?

_____

_____

Words to know

recess: a break from class when children can play
tangled: twisted together in a knot
steady: even and not changing
turners: the people who swing the ropes around
cheered: shouted happily to show support

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: _____

Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

Square group

At recess, Nia and Keisha were determined to jump double dutch, a game in which two long ropes swing in opposite directions while a jumper hops in the gap between them. Two turners and one jumper add up to three people, and the girls were only two.

"We could invite Wen," suggested Keisha. Wen was new at school, and he usually sat alone by the fence.

Nia felt nervous. What if Wen had no idea how to turn a rope? But Wen agreed immediately. "My cousin showed me once," he explained.

The first attempt was a disaster. The ropes tangled, and Nia landed in a heap on the blacktop. The second attempt was no better, because Wen turned too slowly while Keisha turned far too fast.

"Let's count out loud together," Wen proposed. "One, two, three, jump!"

They counted in unison, and the ropes settled into a steady rhythm, slap, slap, slap. Nia waited for the right moment, then stepped in and hopped ten times before she finally tripped. Everyone cheered anyway.

From that day on, Wen never had to sit alone by the fence again.

Questions

1. How many people does double dutch need?

_____

_____

2. Who did the girls decide to invite?

_____

_____

3. Why did the ropes tangle on the first two attempts?

_____

_____

4. What suggestion from Wen helped the ropes keep a steady rhythm?

_____

_____

5. Why do you think Wen usually sat alone by the fence?

_____

_____

6. How did the game change things for Wen?

_____

_____

Words to know

recess: a break from class when children can play
tangled: twisted together in a knot
steady: even and not changing
turners: the people who swing the ropes around
cheered: shouted happily to show support

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: Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

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

Circle: Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

Easier · 114 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. Three people.
2. Wen.
3. The ropes got tangled because the turners were at different speeds.
4. Counting out loud.
5. He was new and had no friends yet.
6. He made friends and was not alone.

Triangle: Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

This passage · 163 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. Three: two turners and one jumper.
2. Wen.
3. The ropes tangled because the turners were not turning at the same speed.
4. Counting out loud.
5. He was new and did not have friends to play with yet.
6. He made friends and was not left alone at recess.

Square: Double Dutch Needs a Third Turner

Harder · 186 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. Three people: two turners and one jumper.
2. Wen.
3. The two turners were not turning at the same speed.
4. Counting out loud together.
5. He was new and had not made friends yet.
6. He made friends and no longer had to sit alone.