Name: _____ Date: _____

# How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

Circle group

A stained glass window looks like a puzzle made of light. It is made of many small pieces of colored glass. When the sun shines through, the colors glow.

First, an artist makes a drawing of the window. Then the artist cuts the glass to fit. Each piece is a different color, like red, blue or gold.

The pieces sit in thin strips of soft metal called lead. The strips hold the glass in place. They look like the lines on a coloring page.

At night, the window can look dull. In the day, light goes through the glass and fills the room with color.

## Questions

**1. What is a stained glass window made of?**

_____

_____

**2. What does the artist start with?**

_____

_____

**3. What holds the glass in place?**

_____

_____

**4. Why is the window like a puzzle made of light?**

_____

_____

**5. When does the window look its best?**

_____

_____

**6. Why might a window be put where it faces the sun?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

stained: colored with a dye or tint
lead: a soft, heavy metal that is easy to bend
glow: to shine with a soft light
pieces: parts that are cut from something bigger
artist: a person who makes art

## 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: _____

# How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

Triangle group

A stained glass window looks like a puzzle made of light. It is built from many small pieces of colored glass. When the sun shines through, the colors seem to glow.

An artist starts with a drawing of the whole window. Then the artist cuts the glass into pieces that fit the drawing. Each piece is a different color, such as red, blue or gold.

The pieces are set into thin strips of soft metal called lead. The strips hold the glass in place, like the lines on a coloring page. A thin line of dark metal around each shape makes the colors stand out.

At night, a stained glass window can look dull. In the daytime, light passes through the glass and fills the room with color. That is why many of these windows are made to face the sun.

## Questions

**1. What is a stained glass window made from?**

_____

_____

**2. What does the artist begin with?**

_____

_____

**3. What holds the pieces of glass in place?**

_____

_____

**4. Why is the window called a puzzle made of light?**

_____

_____

**5. When does a stained glass window look its best?**

_____

_____

**6. Why might builders put these windows where they face the sun?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

stained: colored with a dye or tint
lead: a soft, heavy metal that is easy to bend
glow: to shine with a soft light
pieces: parts that are cut from something bigger
artist: a person who makes art

## 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: _____

# How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

Square group

A stained glass window resembles a puzzle made entirely of light. It is assembled from countless small pieces of colored glass, and when the sun shines through them, the colors seem to glow from within.

The artist begins with a detailed drawing of the whole window. Next, the artist cuts the glass into pieces that fit the drawing exactly. Every piece has its own color, such as red, blue or gold.

The pieces are then set into thin strips of soft metal called lead. These strips hold the glass firmly in place, much like the outlines on a coloring page. The dark metal around each shape also helps the colors stand out.

After dark, a stained glass window can appear dull. During the day, however, light passes through the glass and floods the room with color, which is why many of these windows are built to face the sun.

## Questions

**1. What is a stained glass window assembled from?**

_____

_____

**2. What does the artist begin with?**

_____

_____

**3. What substance holds the glass pieces in place?**

_____

_____

**4. Why does the window resemble a puzzle made of light?**

_____

_____

**5. When does a stained glass window look its best?**

_____

_____

**6. Why would builders want these windows to face the sun?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

stained: colored with a dye or tint
lead: a soft, heavy metal that is easy to bend
glow: to shine with a soft light
pieces: parts that are cut from something bigger
artist: a person who makes art

## 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: How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

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

### Circle: How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

Easier · 105 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. Many small pieces of colored glass.
2. A drawing of the window.
3. Thin strips of soft metal called lead.
4. Many pieces fit together and light makes them glow.
5. In the day, when the sun shines through.
6. The sunlight makes the colors glow.

### Triangle: How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

This passage · 141 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.4

1. Many small pieces of colored glass.
2. A drawing of the whole window.
3. Thin strips of soft metal called lead.
4. It is built from many pieces that fit together, and light makes the colors glow.
5. In the daytime, when sunlight shines through it.
6. The sun's light passing through the glass makes the colors glow.

### Square: How Stained Glass Windows Get Their Glow

Harder · 149 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.9

1. Countless small pieces of colored glass.
2. A detailed drawing of the whole window.
3. Thin strips of soft metal called lead.
4. It is made of many fitted pieces, and sunlight makes their colors glow.
5. During the day, when light passes through it.
6. More sunlight passes through the glass and fills the room with color.