Name: _____ Date: _____

The Lamplighter's Evening Round

Circle group

Picture a town street at dusk, long ago. The sky is turning dark. A man walks down the road with a long pole. He is the lamplighter.

In those days, many towns had street lamps that burned gas. There were no switches. Someone had to light each lamp. The lamplighter stopped at every post. He reached up with his pole and opened the lamp. Then he lit the flame. The street glowed with soft light.

He did this at every lamp on his route. In the morning, he walked the same way and put them all out.

Lamps like these made the streets safer. People could walk home after dark. Shops could stay open later. Later, electric lights took over. They could be turned on all at once. The lamplighter's job faded away.

Questions

1. What did the lamplighter carry?

_____

_____

2. What did the street lamps burn?

_____

_____

3. What did the lamplighter do in the morning?

_____

_____

4. How did street lamps change life in the town?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the lamplighter need a long pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a person who lit street lamps
dusk: the time in the evening when it is getting dark
route: the path someone follows to do a job
flame: the glowing part of a fire
electric: powered by a current that runs through wires

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 Lamplighter's Evening Round

Triangle group

Picture a town street at dusk, a long time ago. The sky is turning dark. A man walks down the road with a long pole on his shoulder. He is the lamplighter.

In those days, many towns had street lamps that burned gas. There were no switches. Someone had to light each lamp by hand. The lamplighter stopped at every post. He reached up with his pole and opened the little gate on the lamp. Then he lit the flame, and the street glowed with soft yellow light.

He did this at every lamp on his route, one after another. In the morning, he walked the same way and put them all out again.

Lamps like these made the streets safer and brighter. People could walk home after dark, and shops could stay open later. Later, electric lights took over, and they could be turned on all at once. The lamplighter's job slowly faded away.

Questions

1. What did the lamplighter carry?

_____

_____

2. What did the street lamps burn?

_____

_____

3. What did the lamplighter do in the morning?

_____

_____

4. How did street lamps change life in the town?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the lamplighter need a long pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a person who lit street lamps
dusk: the time in the evening when it is getting dark
route: the path someone follows to do a job
flame: the glowing part of a fire
electric: powered by a current that runs through wires

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 Lamplighter's Evening Round

Square group

Picture a town street at dusk, a very long time ago. The sky is gradually darkening, and a man strolls down the road with a long pole resting on his shoulder. He is the lamplighter.

In those days, many towns lit their streets with lamps that burned gas, and there were no switches to flip. Someone had to light each lamp by hand. The lamplighter paused at every post, reached up with his pole to open the little gate on the lamp, and lit the flame, until the whole street glowed with a soft yellow light.

He repeated this at every lamp along his route, one after another. The next morning, he walked the same way and put every one of them out again.

Lamps like these made the streets safer and brighter. People could walk home after dark, and shops could stay open later in the evening. Eventually, electric lights took over, and since they could be switched on all at once, the lamplighter's job slowly faded away.

Questions

1. What did the lamplighter carry on his shoulder?

_____

_____

2. What did the street lamps burn?

_____

_____

3. What did the lamplighter do the next morning?

_____

_____

4. How did street lamps change life in the town?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job slowly fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the lamplighter need a long pole?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a person who lit street lamps
dusk: the time in the evening when it is getting dark
route: the path someone follows to do a job
flame: the glowing part of a fire
electric: powered by a current that runs through wires

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 Lamplighter's Evening Round

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

Circle: The Lamplighter's Evening Round

Easier · 133 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. A long pole.
2. Gas.
3. He put the lamps out.
4. Streets were safer, people could walk home after dark, and shops stayed open later.
5. Electric lights could be turned on all at once, so no one had to light each lamp.
6. The lamps were high up on posts, and he had to reach them.

Triangle: The Lamplighter's Evening Round

This passage · 155 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. A long pole.
2. Gas.
3. He walked the same way and put the lamps out.
4. Streets were safer and brighter, people could walk home after dark, and shops stayed open later.
5. Electric lights could be turned on all at once, so no one had to light each lamp.
6. The lamps were high up on posts, and he had to reach them.

Square: The Lamplighter's Evening Round

Harder · 169 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.4

1. A long pole.
2. Gas.
3. He walked the same way and put every lamp out.
4. Streets were safer and brighter, people could walk home after dark, and shops stayed open later.
5. Electric lights could be switched on all at once, so no one had to light each lamp.
6. The lamps were high up on posts, and he had to reach them.