Name: _____ Date: _____

The Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

Circle group

On the first day of music class, Priya blew into her new recorder. Eeeek! It sounded like a mouse. A boy next to her giggled. Her cheeks got hot.

"Everyone squeaks at first," said Mr. Okafor. "Blow softly, like you are fogging a window."

Priya tried. Eeeek! She tried again. Eeeek! Her fingers did not stay on the holes. Open holes make squeaks.

That night, she sat with her recorder and a mirror. She watched her fingers. She pressed each hole. She blew softly. A clear note came out.

The next day, Priya played the note for the class. Nobody giggled. The mouse was gone.

Questions

1. What did Priya's first sound remind everyone of?

_____

_____

2. What did Mr. Okafor tell her to do?

_____

_____

3. What made the squeaks happen?

_____

_____

4. What did Priya use at home to practice?

_____

_____

5. Why did Priya's cheeks get hot at the start?

_____

_____

6. Why was the mouse gone the next day?

_____

Words to know

recorder: a small wooden or plastic pipe that you blow to play music
giggled: laughed in a quiet, silly way
squeak: a short, high sound
clear: easy to hear and not mixed up or fuzzy
softly: in a gentle, quiet way

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 Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

Triangle group

On the first day of music class, Priya blew into her new recorder. Eeeek! It sounded just like a mouse caught in a door. The boy next to her giggled, and her cheeks turned hot.

"Everyone squeaks at first," said Mr. Okafor. "Try again, but blow softly, like you are fogging up a window."

Priya tried. Eeeek! She tried again. Eeeek! Her fingers did not want to stay on the holes. Some holes were left open, and that made the squeaks.

That night she sat on her bed with the recorder and a mirror. She watched her fingers and pressed each hole until it felt like a tiny kiss. She blew softly. A round, clear note floated out.

Priya grinned at the mirror. The next day, she played that one note for the whole class. Nobody giggled. Mr. Okafor gave her a thumbs up, and the mouse was gone.

Questions

1. What did Priya's first sound remind everyone of?

_____

_____

2. What did Mr. Okafor tell her to do?

_____

_____

3. What made the squeaks happen?

_____

_____

4. What did Priya use at home to help her practice?

_____

_____

5. Why did Priya's cheeks turn hot at the start?

_____

_____

6. Why was the mouse gone by the next day?

_____

_____

Words to know

recorder: a small wooden or plastic pipe that you blow to play music
giggled: laughed in a quiet, silly way
squeak: a short, high sound
clear: easy to hear and not mixed up or fuzzy
softly: in a gentle, quiet way

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 Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

Square group

On the very first day of music class, Priya blew into her brand new recorder, and a thin, shrieking squeal came out. It sounded exactly like a mouse that had been caught in a door. The boy sitting next to her giggled, and she felt her cheeks burn with embarrassment.

"Everyone squeaks at the beginning," said Mr. Okafor kindly. "Try again, but blow very softly, as though you were fogging up a window."

Priya tried. Eeeek! She tried again. Eeeek! Her fingers kept slipping off the holes, and the holes that stayed open were the ones that made the squeaks.

That evening she sat on her bed with the recorder and a mirror, watching her fingers carefully. She pressed each hole until it felt like a tiny kiss, then blew gently. A round, clear note floated into the room.

Priya grinned at her reflection. The following day, she played that single note for the entire class. Nobody giggled. Mr. Okafor gave her a thumbs up, and the mouse had disappeared.

Questions

1. What did Priya's first sound remind everyone of?

_____

_____

2. What did Mr. Okafor tell her to do when she tried again?

_____

_____

3. Which holes made the squeaks?

_____

_____

4. What did Priya use at home to watch her fingers?

_____

_____

5. Why did Priya's cheeks burn at the start of class?

_____

_____

6. Why had the mouse disappeared by the following day?

_____

_____

Words to know

recorder: a small wooden or plastic pipe that you blow to play music
giggled: laughed in a quiet, silly way
squeak: a short, high sound
clear: easy to hear and not mixed up or fuzzy
softly: in a gentle, quiet way

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 Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

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

Circle: The Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

Easier · 105 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1

1. A mouse.
2. Blow softly, like fogging a window.
3. Open holes.
4. A mirror.
5. She felt embarrassed when the boy giggled.
6. Priya practiced and played a clear note.

Triangle: The Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

This passage · 149 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.7

1. A mouse caught in a door.
2. Blow softly, like fogging up a window.
3. Some holes were left open.
4. A mirror.
5. She felt embarrassed when the boy giggled at her squeak.
6. Priya practiced, covered the holes well, and played a clear note.

Square: The Recorder That Squeaked Like a Mouse

Harder · 170 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.2

1. A mouse that had been caught in a door.
2. Blow very softly, as though fogging up a window.
3. The holes that stayed open.
4. A mirror.
5. She was embarrassed when the boy giggled at her squeak.
6. Priya practiced, covered the holes properly, and played a clear note.