Name: _____ Date: _____

Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

Circle group

Sami had just moved to a new country. At recess he stood by the wall. His hands were in his pockets. He knew only a few English words. The kids on the field talked too fast.

Ruben saw him. He did not know how to say hello. So he tried something else. He held out a fist and said, "Rock?"

Sami's face lit up. He held out his own fist. He shook it three times. Ruben shook his too. Sami held his hand flat for paper. Ruben made two fingers like scissors. Scissors cut paper. Ruben lost. He laughed.

They played again and again. Four more kids came to watch. "Tournament!" someone shouted.

Ruben drew a bracket on the ground with a stick. Sami won his first match. He won his second match. He said the moves in his own language. The kids copied the sounds. Soon half the field said "rock, paper, scissors" in two languages.

Sami was the champion. He bowed. Everyone cheered.

The next day, he did not stand by the wall. He ran to the field and held up his fist. "Tournament?" he said. Nearly twenty kids said yes.

Questions

1. Where did Sami stand at the start of recess?

_____

_____

2. How did Ruben start a game with Sami?

_____

_____

3. What did Ruben draw on the ground?

_____

_____

4. What did the kids copy from Sami?

_____

_____

5. Why was a hand game a good way for Ruben and Sami to connect?

_____

_____

6. How can you tell Sami felt at home the next day?

_____

_____

Words to know

tournament: a set of games where players try to win
bracket: a chart that shows who plays whom in a contest
champion: the winner of a contest

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: _____

Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

Triangle group

Sami had just moved to a new country. At recess, he stood by the wall with his hands in his pockets. He knew only a few English words, and the kids on the field were talking too fast.

Ruben saw him standing alone. He had no idea how to say hello, so he tried something else. He held out a fist and said, "Rock?"

Sami's face lit up. He pulled out his own fist. Then he shook it three times. Ruben shook his too. Sami opened his hand flat for paper. Ruben made two fingers like scissors. Scissors cut paper. Ruben lost, and he laughed.

They played again. And again. Soon four more kids gathered around. "Tournament!" someone shouted.

Ruben drew a bracket on the ground with a stick. Sami won his first match, then his second. Each time he named the moves in his own language, and the kids copied the sounds. By the end of recess, half the field was saying "rock, paper, scissors" in two languages.

Sami was crowned champion. He bowed, and everybody cheered.

The next day, he did not stand by the wall. He ran to the field first and held up his fist. "Tournament?" he said, and nearly twenty kids said yes.

Questions

1. Where did Sami stand at the start of recess?

_____

_____

2. What did Ruben do to start a game with Sami?

_____

_____

3. What did Ruben draw on the ground with a stick?

_____

_____

4. What did the kids copy from Sami?

_____

_____

5. Why was a hand game a good way for Ruben and Sami to connect?

_____

_____

6. How can you tell Sami felt more at home the next day?

_____

_____

Words to know

tournament: a set of games where players try to win
bracket: a chart that shows who plays whom in a contest
champion: the winner of a contest
gathered: came together in one place
crowned: named the winner with a special honor

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: _____

Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

Square group

Sami had only just moved to a new country. At recess, he stood by the wall with his hands in his pockets. He knew only a handful of English words, and the children on the field were chattering far too quickly for him to follow.

Ruben noticed him standing there alone. He had no idea how to say hello in Sami's language, so he tried something different. He held out a fist and asked, "Rock?"

Sami's face lit up. He raised his own fist and shook it three times, and Ruben shook his in return. Sami opened his hand flat for paper, while Ruben made two fingers like scissors. Scissors cut paper, so Ruben lost, and he burst out laughing.

They played again and again. Soon four more children had gathered around them. "Tournament!" somebody shouted.

Ruben drew a bracket on the ground with a stick. Sami won his first match and then his second. Each time, he named the moves in his own language, and the other children copied the unfamiliar sounds. By the end of recess, half the field was saying "rock, paper, scissors" in two languages.

Sami was crowned the champion. He took a deep bow, and everybody cheered.

The next day, he did not stand by the wall. He ran onto the field first and held up his fist. "Tournament?" he said, and nearly twenty kids said yes.

Questions

1. Where did Sami stand at the beginning of recess?

_____

_____

2. How did Ruben begin a game with Sami?

_____

_____

3. What did Ruben draw on the ground with a stick?

_____

_____

4. What did the other children copy from Sami?

_____

_____

5. Why was a hand game such a good way for Ruben and Sami to connect?

_____

_____

6. What shows that Sami felt at home by the next day?

_____

_____

Words to know

tournament: a set of games where players try to win
bracket: a chart that shows who plays whom in a contest
champion: the winner of a contest
gathered: came together in one place
crowned: named the winner with a special honor

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: Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

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

Circle: Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

Easier · 193 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.4

1. By the wall, with his hands in his pockets.
2. He held out a fist and said rock.
3. A bracket for the tournament.
4. The sounds of rock, paper and scissors in his language.
5. They could play without many words.
6. He ran to the field and asked everyone to play.

Triangle: Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

This passage · 208 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. By the wall, with his hands in his pockets.
2. He held out a fist and said rock.
3. A bracket for the tournament.
4. The sounds of rock, paper and scissors in his language.
5. They could play without needing many words.
6. He ran to the field and asked everyone to play instead of standing alone.

Square: Sami and the Hand Game Tournament

Harder · 232 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.5

1. By the wall, with his hands in his pockets.
2. He held out a fist and asked, rock?
3. A bracket for the tournament.
4. The sounds of rock, paper and scissors in his own language.
5. They could play together without needing many words.
6. He ran onto the field first and invited everyone to play.