Name: _____ Date: _____

The Kite That Would Not Fly

Circle group

Maya waited all week to fly her new kite. On Saturday, she ran in the park with the string in her hand. The kite went up a bit. Then it spun and fell on the grass.

She tried again. It fell again. Maya sat down. She frowned. "This kite is broken," she said.

Her grandpa came to look. "It is not broken," he said. "It needs a tail." He tore a long strip from an old shirt. He tied it to the bottom of the kite.

Maya ran again. This time the wind caught the kite. It went up and up. The tail swayed. It kept the kite steady.

"Why did the tail help?" Maya asked.

"It stops the kite from spinning," Grandpa said. Maya laughed as the kite soared.

Questions

1. What did Maya do on Saturday?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa tie to the kite?

_____

_____

3. What did the tail do?

_____

_____

4. How did Maya feel after the kite fell twice?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandpa say the kite was not broken?

_____

_____

6. How did Maya feel at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies on a string in the wind
frowned: made an unhappy face
steady: not moving or shaking much
swayed: moved slowly from side to side
soared: flew high in the air

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 Kite That Would Not Fly

Triangle group

Maya had waited all week to fly her brand new kite. On Saturday morning, she ran across the park with the string tight in her hand, but the kite only lifted a little before it spun around and tumbled onto the grass.

She tried again, and it crashed again. Maya sat down and frowned. "This kite must be broken," she said.

Her grandpa came over to look at it. "It is not broken," he said. "It just needs a tail." He tore a long strip of cloth from an old shirt and tied it to the bottom of the kite.

Maya ran across the park once more. This time the wind caught the kite, and it climbed higher and higher. The tail swayed back and forth and kept the kite steady.

"Why did the tail help?" Maya asked.

"It keeps the kite from spinning," Grandpa explained. Maya laughed as the kite soared above the trees.

Questions

1. What did Maya do on Saturday?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa tie to the kite?

_____

_____

3. What did the tail do?

_____

_____

4. How did Maya feel after the kite crashed twice?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandpa say the kite was not broken?

_____

_____

6. How did Maya feel at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies on a string in the wind
frowned: made an unhappy face
steady: not moving or shaking much
swayed: moved slowly from side to side
soared: flew high in the air

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 Kite That Would Not Fly

Square group

Maya had been looking forward to flying her brand new kite all week long. On Saturday morning, she dashed across the park with the string clutched tightly in her hand, but the kite rose only a short distance before it spun around and tumbled onto the grass.

She tried a second time, and once again it crashed. Maya sat down on the grass and frowned. "This kite must be broken," she said glumly.

Her grandpa strolled over to examine it. "It is not broken," he said. "It simply needs a tail." He tore a long strip of cloth from an old shirt and tied it to the bottom of the kite.

Maya raced across the park once more. This time the wind caught the kite, and it climbed higher and higher. The tail swayed from side to side and kept the kite steady.

"Why did the tail help?" Maya asked.

"It prevents the kite from spinning," Grandpa explained. Maya laughed as the kite soared above the trees.

Questions

1. What did Maya do on Saturday morning?

_____

_____

2. What did Grandpa tie to the bottom of the kite?

_____

_____

3. What was the job of the tail?

_____

_____

4. How did Maya feel after the kite crashed twice?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandpa insist that the kite was not broken?

_____

_____

6. How did Maya feel at the end of the story?

_____

_____

Words to know

kite: a light toy that flies on a string in the wind
frowned: made an unhappy face
steady: not moving or shaking much
swayed: moved slowly from side to side
soared: flew high in the air

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 Kite That Would Not Fly

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

Circle: The Kite That Would Not Fly

Easier · 130 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.4

1. She ran in the park to fly her new kite.
2. A tail from an old shirt.
3. It kept the kite steady and stopped it from spinning.
4. Upset. She sat down and frowned.
5. It only needed a tail.
6. Happy. The kite flew and she laughed.

Triangle: The Kite That Would Not Fly

This passage · 155 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. She ran across the park to fly her new kite.
2. A tail made from a strip of an old shirt.
3. It kept the kite steady so it would not spin.
4. Upset or let down. She sat down and frowned.
5. It only needed a tail. Nothing was wrong with the kite itself.
6. Happy, because the kite finally flew and she laughed.

Square: The Kite That Would Not Fly

Harder · 167 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. She dashed across the park to fly her new kite.
2. A tail made from a strip of cloth from an old shirt.
3. It kept the kite steady and prevented it from spinning.
4. Discouraged or upset, because she sat down, frowned, and spoke glumly.
5. It simply needed a tail, and nothing was wrong with the kite itself.
6. Happy, because the kite finally flew and she laughed.