Name: _____ Date: _____

The Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

Circle group

Turn on a faucet. Clean water pours out. It has come a long way.

Many towns get water from a river, a lake or a deep well. Rain and snow fill these places. A big lake that holds water is a reservoir.

Next, the water goes to a treatment plant. Workers take out dirt and germs. They test the water again and again. They want it to be safe to drink.

Then the water goes in big pipes under the ground. Big pipes split into small ones. They go under streets and into buildings. Some towns keep water in a tall tank on a hill. The weight of the water pushes it through the pipes.

Last, the water reaches your sink. Turn the tap off when you are done. Then less water is wasted.

Questions

1. Where do many towns get water?

_____

_____

2. What is a reservoir?

_____

_____

3. What do workers at the treatment plant do?

_____

_____

4. Where do the pipes carry the clean water?

_____

_____

5. Why is a water tank put high on a hill?

_____

_____

6. Why should you turn off the tap when you are done?

_____

_____

Words to know

faucet: the tap that you turn to let water out
reservoir: a lake where a town stores water
treatment plant: a place where water is cleaned
germs: tiny living things that can make people sick
wasted: used up without any good reason

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 Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

Triangle group

Turn on a faucet and clean water pours out. It has taken a long trip to get there.

Many towns get their water from a river, a lake or a deep well. Rain and melting snow fill these places. The water may be held in a big lake called a reservoir.

Next, the water goes to a treatment plant. Workers there remove dirt and harmful germs. They test the water again and again to make sure it is safe to drink.

Then the clean water flows through large pipes under the ground. The big pipes split into smaller ones. These go under streets and into buildings. Some towns also keep water in a tall tank on a hill. The weight of the water high up pushes it through the pipes.

Finally, the water reaches your sink. It is a good idea to turn the tap off when you are not using it, so less water is wasted.

Questions

1. Where do many towns get their water?

_____

_____

2. What is a reservoir?

_____

_____

3. What do workers at the treatment plant do?

_____

_____

4. Where do the pipes carry the clean water?

_____

_____

5. Why is a water tank placed high on a hill?

_____

_____

6. Why should you turn off the tap when you are not using it?

_____

_____

Words to know

faucet: the tap that you turn to let water out
reservoir: a lake where a town stores water
treatment plant: a place where water is cleaned
germs: tiny living things that can make people sick
wasted: used up without any good reason

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 Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

Square group

When you turn on a faucet, clean water pours out, but that water has completed a remarkably long journey to reach you.

Many towns collect their water from a river, a lake or a deep well, and these places are filled by rain and melting snow. In some towns, the water is held in a huge lake that is called a reservoir.

From there, the water travels to a treatment plant, where workers remove dirt and harmful germs. They test the water repeatedly to make certain that it is safe to drink.

Afterward, the clean water flows through large pipes buried underground. The large pipes divide into smaller ones that run beneath the streets and into homes and buildings. Some towns also store water in a tall tank on a hill, because the weight of the water high above pushes it through the pipes.

Finally, the water arrives at your sink. Turning off the tap when you are not using it helps to prevent water from being wasted.

Questions

1. Where do many towns collect their water?

_____

_____

2. What is a reservoir?

_____

_____

3. What do the workers at a treatment plant do?

_____

_____

4. Where do the large pipes carry the clean water?

_____

_____

5. Why do some towns put a water tank on a high hill?

_____

_____

6. Why is it wise to turn off the tap when you are not using it?

_____

_____

Words to know

faucet: the tap that you turn to let water out
reservoir: a lake where a town stores water
treatment plant: a place where water is cleaned
germs: tiny living things that can make people sick
wasted: used up without any good reason

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 Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

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

Circle: The Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

Easier · 134 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. From a river, a lake or a deep well.
2. A big lake that holds water.
3. They take out dirt and germs and test the water.
4. Under the ground, under streets and into buildings.
5. The weight of the water pushes it through the pipes.
6. Less water is wasted.

Triangle: The Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

This passage · 157 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.2

1. From a river, a lake or a deep well.
2. A big lake where water is held.
3. They remove dirt and harmful germs and test the water.
4. Under the ground, under streets and into buildings.
5. The weight of the water high up pushes it through the pipes.
6. Less water is wasted, and the water took a long trip to reach you.

Square: The Long Trip of the Water in Your Tap

Harder · 168 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.8

1. From a river, a lake or a deep well.
2. A huge lake where a town holds its water.
3. They remove dirt and harmful germs and test the water repeatedly.
4. Underground, beneath the streets and into buildings.
5. The weight of the water high above pushes it through the pipes.
6. It prevents water from being wasted after its long journey.