Name: _____ Date: _____

The Middle Seat Schedule

Circle group

The Park family had a small car and three kids. Two kids got the windows. One kid got the middle seat. A lumpy hump stuck up from the floor there. Nobody wanted it.

Every morning, the same fight began. "I called the window!" yelled Kai. "I had it yesterday!" yelled Lina. "Mom said I could," said Dae. That was not true.

One rainy day, Grandma rode along. She heard the shouting for two blocks. Then she said, "May I make a suggestion?"

She drew three rows on paper. "Each day, the seats change. On Monday, Kai gets the left window. On Tuesday, he gets the middle. Everyone gets a turn."

"The middle is the worst," said Lina.

"Then let's fix the middle," said Grandma. "The kid in the middle holds the snack bag and shares it out. That kid also picks the song."

The kids looked at each other. Snacks were a big deal.

The next day, Dae sat in the middle. He picked a silly song and gave out crackers. Soon Kai asked, "Is it my day for the hump?" Mom taped the paper to the dashboard. The fighting stopped.

Questions

1. How many kids were in the Park family?

_____

_____

2. What made the middle seat uncomfortable?

_____

_____

3. Who made the seat plan?

_____

_____

4. What two jobs did the kid in the middle get?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandma give the middle seat special jobs?

_____

_____

6. How can you tell the plan worked?

_____

_____

Words to know

lumpy: bumpy, with hard round parts sticking up
suggestion: an idea that someone offers to help
dashboard: the panel at the front of a car under the windshield

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 Middle Seat Schedule

Triangle group

The Park family had a small car and three kids. Two kids got the windows. One kid got the middle seat, where a lumpy hump poked up from the floor. Nobody wanted it.

Every morning, the same fight started. "I called the window!" yelled Kai. "I had it yesterday!" yelled Lina. "Mom said I could," said big brother Dae, which was not true.

One rainy morning, Grandma rode along. She listened to the shouting for two whole blocks. Then she said, "May I make a suggestion?"

She took a sheet of paper from her purse and drew three rows. "Each day, the seats rotate. Monday, Kai gets the left window. Tuesday, he moves to the middle. Everyone has a turn."

"But the middle is the worst," said Lina.

"Then let's fix the middle," said Grandma. "Whoever sits there gets two special jobs. First, you hold the snack bag and share it out. Second, you pick the song."

The kids looked at each other. Being in charge of snacks was a very big deal.

The next day, Dae sat in the middle. He chose a silly song and passed out crackers. By the end of the week, Kai was asking, "Is it my day for the hump yet?" Mom taped the paper to the dashboard, and the fighting stopped.

Questions

1. How many kids were in the Park family?

_____

_____

2. What made the middle seat uncomfortable?

_____

_____

3. Who came up with the seat schedule?

_____

_____

4. What two jobs did the child in the middle get?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandma give the middle seat special jobs?

_____

_____

6. What shows that the plan worked?

_____

_____

Words to know

lumpy: bumpy, with hard round parts sticking up
suggestion: an idea that someone offers to help
rotate: to take turns by moving around in order
dashboard: the panel at the front of a car under the windshield

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 Middle Seat Schedule

Square group

The Park family owned a small car and had three children. Two of the kids were lucky enough to get the windows, while the third got the middle seat, where a lumpy hump poked up from the floor. Nobody wanted it.

Every single morning, the same argument erupted. "I called the window!" yelled Kai. "I had it yesterday!" yelled Lina. "Mom said I could have it," claimed big brother Dae, which was not true.

One rainy morning, Grandma rode along. She listened to the shouting for two whole blocks, and then she asked, "May I make a suggestion?"

She took a sheet of paper from her purse and drew three neat rows. "Every day, the seats will rotate. On Monday, Kai gets the left window. On Tuesday, he moves to the middle. That way, everyone gets a fair turn."

"But the middle is the worst," complained Lina.

"Then let's improve the middle," said Grandma. "Whoever sits there gets two special jobs. First, you hold the snack bag and share the snacks out. Second, you choose the song."

The children glanced at one another. Being in charge of the snacks was a very big deal indeed.

The following day, Dae sat in the middle. He chose a silly song and passed out crackers to everyone. By the end of the week, Kai was already asking, "Is it my day for the hump yet?" Mom taped the paper to the dashboard, and the arguing stopped for good.

Questions

1. How many children were in the Park family?

_____

_____

2. What made the middle seat so uncomfortable?

_____

_____

3. Who came up with the idea of a seat schedule?

_____

4. What two special jobs did the child in the middle receive?

5. Why do you think Grandma gave the middle seat special jobs?

6. What evidence shows that Grandma's plan worked?

Words to know

lumpy: bumpy, with hard round parts sticking up
suggestion: an idea that someone offers to help
rotate: to take turns by moving around in order
dashboard: the panel at the front of a car under the windshield

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 Middle Seat Schedule

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

Circle: The Middle Seat Schedule

Easier · 191 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.4

1. Three.
2. A lumpy hump on the floor.
3. Grandma.
4. Holding and sharing the snack bag, and picking the song.
5. She wanted to make the worst seat feel like a good one.
6. Kai asked when it would be his day for the middle, and the fighting stopped.

Triangle: The Middle Seat Schedule

This passage · 218 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. Three.
2. A lumpy hump on the floor.
3. Grandma.
4. To hold and share the snack bag, and to pick the song.
5. She wanted to make the worst seat feel like a good one.
6. Kai asked when it would be his turn for the middle, and the fighting stopped.

Square: The Middle Seat Schedule

Harder · 245 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.5

1. Three.
2. A lumpy hump poked up from the floor.
3. Grandma.
4. To hold and share the snack bag, and to choose the song.
5. She wanted to turn the worst seat into one that felt good to sit in.
6. Kai asked when his turn in the middle would come, and the arguing stopped.