Name: _____ Date: _____

The Promise Called an Oath

Circle group

Some people start an important job by saying a promise out loud. This promise is called an oath. Mayors, judges and other leaders often take one.

Why say it out loud? An oath shows that the person knows the job. The leader says, "I will work honestly and fairly. I will follow the rules."

Many oaths happen in front of other people. The leader may raise one hand. Family and neighbors may watch. The whole community can hear the promise. People can expect the leader to keep it.

Oaths are not just for big jobs. Some clubs and schools have a pledge. A scout might promise to help others. A student council might promise to listen.

A promise matters most when someone keeps it. Then people trust that leader more.

Questions

1. What is an oath?

_____

_____

2. Which leaders often take an oath?

_____

_____

3. What does the leader promise?

_____

_____

4. Why do many oaths happen in front of people?

_____

_____

5. Who else says a promise together?

_____

_____

6. What happens when a leader keeps a promise?

_____

_____

Words to know

oath: a serious promise said out loud
honestly: in a way that tells the truth and does not cheat
fairly: in a way that treats everyone the same
pledge: a promise made by a group or person
trust: to believe that someone will do the right thing

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 Promise Called an Oath

Triangle group

When some people start an important job, they stand up and say a promise out loud. This promise is called an oath. Mayors, judges and other leaders often take one.

Why say it out loud? An oath is a way of showing that the person understands the job. The leader is saying, "I will do my work honestly and fairly, and I will follow the rules."

Many oaths are taken in front of other people. The leader may raise one hand, and family and neighbors may watch. That way, the whole community can hear the promise. People remember what was said, and they can expect the leader to keep it.

Oaths are not only for adults in big jobs. Some clubs and schools also have a pledge that members say together. A scout might promise to help others. A student council might promise to listen.

A promise matters most when someone keeps it. When a leader does, people trust that leader more.

Questions

1. What is an oath?

_____

_____

2. Which leaders often take an oath?

_____

_____

3. What does the leader promise in an oath?

_____

_____

4. Why do many oaths happen in front of other people?

_____

_____

5. Who else might make a promise together, besides leaders?

_____

_____

6. What happens when a leader keeps a promise?

_____

_____

Words to know

oath: a serious promise said out loud
honestly: in a way that tells the truth and does not cheat
fairly: in a way that treats everyone the same
pledge: a promise made by a group or person
trust: to believe that someone will do the right thing

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 Promise Called an Oath

Square group

When certain people begin an important job, they stand and speak a solemn promise aloud. This promise is called an oath, and mayors, judges and other public leaders often take one.

Why is it spoken out loud? An oath is a way of showing that the person understands the responsibilities of the job. In effect, the leader declares, "I will do my work honestly and fairly, and I will follow the rules."

Many oaths are taken in front of an audience. The leader may raise one hand while family members and neighbors look on. That way, the entire community can hear the promise, remember what was said, and expect the leader to keep it.

Oaths are not reserved for adults in large jobs. Some clubs and schools also have a pledge that the members recite together. A scout might promise to help others, and a student council might promise to listen carefully.

A promise matters most when someone keeps it. When a leader does, people have more reason to trust that leader.

Questions

1. What is an oath?

_____

_____

2. Which public leaders often take an oath?

_____

_____

3. What does the leader promise in the oath described here?

_____

_____

4. Why are many oaths taken in front of an audience?

_____

_____

5. Who else might recite a pledge together, besides leaders?

_____

_____

6. What happens when a leader keeps a promise?

_____

_____

Words to know

oath: a serious promise said out loud
honestly: in a way that tells the truth and does not cheat
fairly: in a way that treats everyone the same
pledge: a promise made by a group or person
trust: to believe that someone will do the right thing

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 Promise Called an Oath

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

Circle: The Promise Called an Oath

Easier · 130 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.4

1. A promise said out loud when starting an important job.
2. Mayors, judges and other leaders.
3. To work honestly and fairly and follow the rules.
4. So the whole community hears the promise and expects it to be kept.
5. Clubs and schools, such as a scout or a student council.
6. People trust that leader more.

Triangle: The Promise Called an Oath

This passage · 162 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.5

1. A promise that a person says out loud when starting an important job.
2. Mayors, judges and other leaders.
3. To do the work honestly and fairly and to follow the rules.
4. So the whole community can hear the promise and expect the leader to keep it.
5. Members of clubs and schools, such as a scout or a student council.
6. People trust that leader more.

Square: The Promise Called an Oath

Harder · 172 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.6

1. A solemn promise spoken aloud when a person begins an important job.
2. Mayors, judges and other leaders.
3. To do the work honestly and fairly and to follow the rules.
4. So the entire community can hear the promise and expect the leader to keep it.
5. Members of clubs and schools, such as a scout or a student council.
6. People have more reason to trust that leader.