Name: _____ Date: _____

The Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

Circle group

Omar and his little sister Pia ran to the seesaw. Omar sat on one end. Pia sat on the other. Down went Omar. Up went Pia, high in the air. She could not get down!

"This is not fun," said Pia. Omar was bigger. His weight pushed his end to the ground.

Their teacher, Ms. Reyes, had an idea. "A seesaw turns on a center point," she said. "Move closer to it, Omar."

Omar slid toward the middle. The board began to level out. Omar sat a little way from the center. Pia stayed at the far end. The seesaw was balanced. Pia's feet touched the ground. Then Omar's did too. They took turns.

"A heavy person close to the middle can balance a light person far from it," said Ms. Reyes. "Distance from the center matters as much as weight."

Pia laughed as she bounced up. Now the seesaw was fun for both.

Questions

1. Why was Pia stuck up in the air at first?

_____

_____

2. What does a seesaw turn on?

_____

_____

3. What did Ms. Reyes tell Omar to do?

_____

_____

4. Where did Pia sit when the seesaw was balanced?

_____

_____

5. Besides weight, what else matters for balance?

_____

_____

6. How did Pia feel at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

seesaw: a long board that goes up and down on a middle point
balanced: level, with neither side going down
weight: how heavy something is
center: the middle point of something
distance: how far apart two things are

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 Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

Triangle group

Omar and his little sister Pia ran to the seesaw. Omar sat on one end. Pia sat on the other. Down went Omar, and up went Pia, high in the air. She could not get back down!

"This is not fun," said Pia. Omar was bigger, and his weight pushed his end to the ground.

Their teacher, Ms. Reyes, came over with an idea. "A seesaw turns on a center point," she said. "Try moving closer to it, Omar."

Omar slid his seat toward the middle. Slowly, the board started to level out. When Omar sat just a little way from the center and Pia stayed at the far end, the seesaw was balanced. Pia's feet touched the ground, and then Omar's did too, taking turns.

"A heavy person close to the middle can balance a light person far from it," Ms. Reyes explained. "Distance from the center matters as much as weight."

Pia laughed as she bounced up. Now the seesaw was fun for both of them.

Questions

1. Why was Pia stuck up in the air at first?

_____

_____

2. What does a seesaw turn on?

_____

_____

3. What did Ms. Reyes tell Omar to do?

_____

_____

4. Where did Pia sit when the seesaw was balanced?

_____

_____

5. Besides weight, what else matters for balance?

_____

_____

6. How did Pia feel at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

seesaw: a long board that goes up and down on a middle point
balanced: level, with neither side going down
weight: how heavy something is
center: the middle point of something
distance: how far apart two things are

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 Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

Square group

Omar and his little sister Pia raced across the playground to the seesaw. Omar climbed onto one end, and Pia took the other. Down went Omar, and up went Pia, high into the air, where she was stranded and unable to get back down!

"This is not fun at all," complained Pia. Omar was bigger than she was, and his greater weight pressed his end firmly against the ground.

Their teacher, Ms. Reyes, strolled over with a clever suggestion. "A seesaw turns on a center point," she explained. "Try sliding closer to it, Omar."

Omar scooted his seat toward the middle, and slowly the board began to level out. When Omar sat just a short way from the center and Pia remained at the far end, the seesaw became perfectly balanced. Pia's feet touched the ground, and then Omar's did too, as the two of them took turns.

"A heavy person close to the middle can balance a light person far away from it," Ms. Reyes said. "The distance from the center matters just as much as the weight."

Pia laughed happily as she bounced upward. At last, the seesaw was fun for both of them.

Questions

1. Why was Pia stranded in the air at first?

_____

_____

2. What does a seesaw turn on?

_____

_____

3. What did Ms. Reyes suggest that Omar do?

_____

_____

4. Where did Pia stay when the seesaw was balanced?

_____

_____

5. Besides weight, what else matters for balance?

_____

_____

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

_____

_____

Words to know

seesaw: a long board that goes up and down on a middle point
balanced: level, with neither side going down
weight: how heavy something is
center: the middle point of something
distance: how far apart two things are

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 Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

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

Circle: The Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

Easier · 154 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. Omar was bigger, and his weight pushed his end down.
2. A center point.
3. Move closer to the center.
4. At the far end.
5. How far each person sits from the center.
6. Happy. She laughed.

Triangle: The Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

This passage · 168 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. Omar was bigger and his weight pushed his end down.
2. A center point.
3. Move closer to the center.
4. At the far end.
5. How far each person sits from the center.
6. She felt happy, and she laughed.

Square: The Seesaw Puzzle: Who Sits Where?

Harder · 196 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5

1. Omar was bigger, and his greater weight pressed his end against the ground.
2. A center point.
3. Slide closer to the center.
4. At the far end.
5. The distance each person sits from the center.
6. She felt happy, and she laughed.