Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sloth Who Raced the Rain

Circle group

Sully the sloth lived high in a rainforest tree. One day he wanted to visit his cousin in the next tree. It was a short trip. But Sully was slow.

"Storm clouds are coming," said a parrot. "Hurry up."

"I can't hurry," said Sully. "I go slowly."

He reached for one branch. Then he reached for the next. A drop of rain hit his nose. Then one hit his back.

The parrot flapped above. "Rush! Rush!"

But Sully kept his own pace. He did not slip. He did not stop. His long claws held each branch.

Soon the rain poured down. Sully was nearly there. Big leaves made a roof. He crept under them, one slow step at a time.

At last he got to his cousin's tree. He was a bit wet, but he was safe.

The parrot had flown off in a panic. She got soaked to the feathers. "How did you beat me?" she asked.

"I never rushed," said Sully.

Questions

1. Where did Sully live?

_____

_____

2. Who did Sully want to visit?

_____

_____

3. What did the parrot tell Sully to do?

_____

_____

4. What made a roof over Sully in the rain?

_____

_____

5. Who got soaked to the feathers?

_____

_____

6. Why did Sully not slip on the wet branches?

_____

_____

7. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

sloth: a slow animal that hangs from tree branches
rainforest: a thick forest where a lot of rain falls
pace: how fast you move
panic: a sudden, wild fear
soaked: very wet all the way through

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 Sloth Who Raced the Rain

Triangle group

Sully the sloth lived high in a rainforest tree. One day he wanted to visit his cousin on the next tree over. It was a short trip, but Sully was slow.

"Storm clouds are coming," said a parrot. "You should hurry."

"I can't hurry," said Sully. "I only know how to go slowly."

He reached for the first branch, and then he reached for the next. A drop of rain landed on his nose, and then another one landed on his back.

The parrot flapped overhead. "Rush! Rush!"

But Sully kept to his own pace. He did not slip, and he did not stop, because his long claws held tight to each branch.

Soon the rain poured down. Sully was nearly there. The big leaves overhead made a roof, and he crept beneath them, one slow step at a time.

At last he reached his cousin's tree. He was a little wet, but he was safe.

The parrot, who had flown off in a panic, got soaked to the feathers. "How did you beat me?" she asked.

"I never rushed," said Sully.

Questions

1. Where did Sully live?

_____

_____

2. Who did Sully want to visit?

_____

_____

3. What did the parrot tell Sully to do?

_____

_____

4. What made a roof over Sully as the rain poured?

_____

_____

5. Who got soaked to the feathers?

_____

_____

6. Why did Sully not slip on the wet branches?

_____

_____

7. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

sloth: a slow animal that hangs from tree branches
rainforest: a thick forest where a lot of rain falls
pace: how fast you move
panic: a sudden, wild fear
soaked: very wet all the way through

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 Sloth Who Raced the Rain

Square group

Sully the sloth lived high in the branches of a rainforest tree. One morning he decided to visit his cousin, who lived in the very next tree. It was only a short trip, but Sully was famously slow.

"Storm clouds are gathering," warned a parrot. "You really should hurry."

"I cannot hurry," said Sully. "I only know how to travel slowly."

He reached for the first branch, and then he reached for the next. A single drop of rain landed on his nose, and then another landed on his back.

The parrot flapped frantically overhead. "Rush! Rush!"

But Sully kept to his own pace. He did not slip, and he did not stop. His long claws gripped each branch firmly.

Soon the rain poured down in sheets. Sully was almost there. The enormous leaves overhead formed a roof, and he crept beneath them, one slow step at a time.

At last he reached his cousin's tree, a little damp but perfectly safe.

The parrot, who had flown off in a panic, was soaked to the feathers. "How did you beat me?" she asked.

"I never rushed," said Sully.

Questions

1. Where did Sully live?

_____

_____

2. Who did Sully decide to visit?

_____

_____

3. What did the parrot warn Sully to do?

_____

_____

4. What formed a roof over Sully as the rain poured?

_____

_____

5. Who was soaked to the feathers?

_____

_____

6. Why did Sully not slip on the wet branches?

_____

_____

7. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

sloth: a slow animal that hangs from tree branches
rainforest: a thick forest where a lot of rain falls
pace: how fast you move
panic: a sudden, wild fear
soaked: very wet all the way through

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 Sloth Who Raced the Rain

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

Circle: The Sloth Who Raced the Rain

Easier · 163 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.2

1. High in a rainforest tree.
2. His cousin in the next tree.
3. To hurry.
4. The big leaves.
5. The parrot.
6. He kept his slow pace and held on with his long claws.
7. Steady, careful effort can work better than rushing.

Triangle: The Sloth Who Raced the Rain

This passage · 182 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. High in a rainforest tree.
2. His cousin in the next tree.
3. To hurry.
4. The big leaves overhead.
5. The parrot.
6. He kept his slow pace and held tight with his long claws.
7. Steady, careful effort can work better than rushing.

Square: The Sloth Who Raced the Rain

Harder · 188 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.9

1. High in the branches of a rainforest tree.
2. His cousin in the very next tree.
3. To hurry because storm clouds were gathering.
4. The enormous leaves overhead.
5. The parrot.
6. He kept his slow pace and gripped each branch firmly with his long claws.
7. Steady, careful effort can work better than rushing.