Name: _____ Date: _____

The Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

Circle group

Calder bought a yellow umbrella at a yard sale. It looked plain, but it had one odd habit. It would not open for rain. Not one drop could make it move.

On the first wet day, Calder pushed the button. Click, nothing. He shook it. He begged. His coat got soaked. He walked home, grumpy.

Then he stepped in a puddle. The umbrella popped open by itself! A small cloud puffed out of the top. The cloud shaded his head. It drizzled softly on the puddle.

"You like puddles!" Calder laughed.

After that, he looked for the biggest puddles in town. Where he stood, the umbrella opened. The little cloud floated over him. His friends crowded under it. The cloud grew a bit each time.

One day, the sun dried up the puddles. Calder missed the cloud. So he filled a washtub with water. He stood in it, in the sunshine, with his friends.

Questions

1. Where did Calder get the umbrella?

_____

_____

2. What odd habit did the umbrella have?

_____

_____

3. What made the umbrella pop open?

_____

_____

4. What came out of the top of the umbrella?

_____

_____

5. Why did Calder stand in a washtub on a sunny day?

_____

_____

6. How did Calder feel on the first wet day?

_____

_____

Words to know

umbrella: a cover held overhead to keep off rain
washtub: a large basin used for washing

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 Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

Triangle group

Calder bought a yellow umbrella at a yard sale. It looked ordinary, but it had one odd habit. It would not open for rain. Not a drop would make it budge.

On the first wet day, Calder pushed the button. Click, nothing. He shook it. He begged. His coat got soaked, and he walked home grumpy.

Then he stepped in a puddle, and the umbrella popped open all by itself. Above him, a small cloud puffed out of the top. The cloud shaded his head and drizzled gently on the puddle.

"You like puddles!" Calder laughed.

From then on, he hunted for the biggest puddles in town. Wherever he stood, the umbrella opened, and the little cloud floated overhead. His friends crowded under it, and the cloud grew a little each time.

One day, the puddles dried up in the sun. Calder missed the cloud. So he filled a washtub with water and stood in it, in the sunshine, with his friends.

Questions

1. Where did Calder get the umbrella?

_____

_____

2. What odd habit did the umbrella have?

_____

_____

3. What made the umbrella pop open?

_____

_____

4. What came out of the top of the umbrella?

_____

_____

5. Why did Calder stand in a washtub of water on a sunny day?

_____

_____

6. How did Calder feel on the first wet day?

_____

_____

Words to know

umbrella: a cover held overhead to keep off rain
ordinary: plain and normal, not special
budge: to move even a little bit
washtub: a large basin used for washing

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 Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

Square group

Calder bought a yellow umbrella at a yard sale. It appeared perfectly ordinary, but it had one peculiar habit: it absolutely refused to open for rain. Not a single drop could make it budge.

On the first wet day, Calder pushed the button. Click, and nothing happened. He shook the umbrella and he begged it. His coat got soaked, and he trudged home feeling grumpy.

Then he stepped into a puddle, and the umbrella popped open all by itself. Above him, a small cloud puffed out of the top. It shaded his head and drizzled gently onto the puddle.

"You like puddles!" Calder laughed.

From then on, he searched the town for the biggest puddles he could find. Wherever he stood, the umbrella opened and the little cloud floated overhead. His friends crowded underneath, and the cloud grew a little bigger each time.

One day, the hot sun dried up every puddle. Calder missed the cloud terribly. So he filled a washtub with water and stood in it, in the bright sunshine, surrounded by his friends.

Questions

1. Where did Calder buy the umbrella?

_____

_____

2. What peculiar habit did the umbrella have?

_____

_____

3. What finally made the umbrella pop open?

_____

_____

4. What puffed out of the top of the umbrella?

_____

_____

5. Why did Calder stand in a washtub of water in the sunshine?

_____

_____

6. How did Calder feel as he walked home on the first wet day?

_____

_____

Words to know

umbrella: a cover held overhead to keep off rain
ordinary: plain and normal, not special
budge: to move even a little bit
washtub: a large basin used for washing

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 Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

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

Circle: The Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

Easier · 154 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.4

1. At a yard sale.
2. It would not open for rain.
3. Calder stepped in a puddle.
4. A small cloud.
5. The puddles dried up, so he made his own puddle to open the umbrella.
6. Grumpy, because he got soaked.

Triangle: The Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

This passage · 162 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. At a yard sale.
2. It would not open for rain.
3. Calder stepped in a puddle.
4. A small cloud.
5. The puddles had dried up, so he made his own puddle to open the umbrella.
6. Grumpy, because he got soaked.

Square: The Umbrella That Waited for Puddles

Harder · 176 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. At a yard sale.
2. It refused to open for rain.
3. Calder stepped into a puddle.
4. A small cloud.
5. The puddles had dried up, so he made his own puddle to make the umbrella open.
6. Grumpy, because his coat got soaked.