Name: _____ Date: _____

Tides at the Beach

Circle group

Spend a day at the beach. You may see the ocean change. In the morning, the water may reach far up the sand. Later it goes back. You can walk on wet sand where the waves were. These changes are called tides.

The moon causes most tides. It pulls on the ocean water. That helps the water rise and fall. When the water is high on the beach, it is high tide. When the water goes back down, it is low tide.

Many beaches have two high tides and two low tides each day. The tides follow a pattern. People can look at a tide chart to see when they will come.

Tide pools are small pools left in the rocks at low tide. Crabs, snails, and sea stars live there. Beach walkers use tide charts to plan trips.

Questions

1. What are tides?

_____

_____

2. What causes most tides?

_____

_____

3. What is high tide?

_____

_____

4. What are tide pools?

_____

_____

5. What lives in tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why would a person look at a tide chart?

_____

_____

Words to know

tides: the daily rise and fall of the ocean
pattern: something that repeats in the same order
tide pools: small pools of sea water left on rocks at low tide
chart: a table or picture that shows information

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: _____

Tides at the Beach

Triangle group

If you visit a beach for a whole day, you may see the ocean change. In the morning, the water might reach far up the sand. Later it pulls back, and you can walk on wet sand where waves were before. These changes are called tides.

Tides are caused mostly by the pull of the moon. The moon's gravity pulls on the ocean water and helps it rise and fall. When the water rises high on the beach, it is called high tide. When the water drops back, it is called low tide.

Many beaches have two high tides and two low tides each day. The tides follow a steady pattern, so people can look up a tide chart to see when each one will come.

Tide pools are small pools left behind among the rocks at low tide. Crabs, snails, and sea stars live there. Beach walkers use tide charts to plan their trips.

Questions

1. What are tides?

_____

_____

2. What mostly causes tides?

_____

_____

3. What is high tide?

_____

_____

4. What are tide pools?

_____

_____

5. What animals live in tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why might a person check a tide chart before a beach walk?

_____

_____

Words to know

tides: the daily rise and fall of the ocean
gravity: a pull between objects, such as the moon and the ocean
pattern: something that repeats in the same order
tide pools: small pools of sea water left on rocks at low tide
chart: a table or picture that shows information

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: _____

Tides at the Beach

Square group

If you spend an entire day at the beach, you will probably notice the ocean changing. In the morning, the water may stretch far up the sand, but later it retreats, and you can walk across wet sand where waves were crashing a few hours earlier. These changes are called tides.

Tides are caused mostly by the pull of the moon. The moon's gravity tugs on the ocean water and helps it rise and fall. When the water climbs high onto the beach, it is called high tide, and when it drops back again, it is called low tide.

Many beaches experience two high tides and two low tides each day. Because the tides follow such a steady pattern, people can consult a tide chart to find out when each one will arrive.

Tide pools are small pools of sea water that remain among the rocks at low tide. Crabs, snails, and sea stars live there, and beach walkers use tide charts to plan their trips.

Questions

1. What name is given to the daily rise and fall of the ocean?

_____

_____

2. What is mostly responsible for causing tides?

_____

_____

3. What is it called when the water climbs high onto the beach?

_____

_____

4. What are tide pools, and when are they left behind?

_____

_____

5. Which animals live in tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why might someone consult a tide chart before a walk on the beach?

_____

_____

Words to know

tides: the daily rise and fall of the ocean
gravity: a pull between objects, such as the moon and the ocean
pattern: something that repeats in the same order
tide pools: small pools of sea water left on rocks at low tide
chart: a table or picture that shows information

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: Tides at the Beach

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

Circle: Tides at the Beach

Easier · 139 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.9

1. The rise and fall of the ocean water at the shore.
2. The pull of the moon.
3. When the water is high on the beach.
4. Small pools left in the rocks at low tide.
5. Crabs, snails, and sea stars.
6. To know when the water will be high or low and plan a trip.

Triangle: Tides at the Beach

This passage · 155 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.8

1. The rise and fall of the ocean water along the shore.
2. The pull of the moon.
3. When the water rises high on the beach.
4. Small pools left among the rocks at low tide.
5. Crabs, snails, and sea stars.
6. To know when the water will be high or low and plan the trip.

Square: Tides at the Beach

Harder · 166 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.4

1. Tides.
2. The pull of the moon.
3. High tide.
4. Small pools of sea water among the rocks, left at low tide.
5. Crabs, snails, and sea stars.
6. To learn when the water will be high or low so the trip can be planned.