Name: _____ Date: _____

The Hum Inside the Flour Bin

Circle group

For two days, a soft buzz was in Priya's kitchen. It came and went. No one could find it. Her little brother said it was a ghost. Her father said it was the fridge.

Priya wanted to be a detective. She took a notebook. She wrote down when the buzz came. It came in short bursts. It came when the house was quiet.

She put her ear on the fridge. Nothing. She checked the window, the toaster, and the radio. Nothing. Then she walked to the pantry. The sound got louder.

Priya opened the pantry door. The hum led her to a big flour bin. She dug into the white flour. She pulled out a flat gray thing. It was her father's phone! It buzzed in her hand.

Her father had dropped it there by mistake. He did not know. He laughed and said thanks. Priya wiped off the flour. She wrote, "Case closed."

Questions

1. How long was the buzz in the kitchen?

_____

_____

2. What did Priya write in her notebook?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya find the sound?

_____

_____

4. What was making the buzz?

_____

_____

5. How did the notebook help Priya?

_____

_____

6. How did the phone get in the flour?

_____

_____

Words to know

detective: a person who looks for clues to solve a mystery
pantry: a small room or cupboard where food is kept
bursts: short, sudden bits of something

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 Hum Inside the Flour Bin

Triangle group

For two days, a quiet buzzing sound floated through Priya's kitchen. It came and went, and no one could find it. Her little brother said it was a ghost. Her father said it was the refrigerator.

Priya decided to be a detective. She took a notebook and wrote down when the buzzing happened. It always came in short bursts, a few seconds apart, and always when the house was calm.

First she put her ear against the refrigerator. Nothing. Then she checked the window, the toaster, and the old radio on the shelf. Still nothing. But when she walked toward the pantry, the sound grew louder.

Priya opened the pantry door and followed the hum to a large flour bin. She lifted the lid, dug carefully into the soft white flour, and pulled out a flat, gray rectangle. It was her father's phone! It buzzed once more in her hand.

Her father had dropped it there while reaching for a bag of sugar and had never noticed. He laughed and thanked her. Priya wiped off the flour and wrote one last line in her notebook: "Case closed."

Questions

1. How long had the buzzing sound been in the kitchen?

_____

_____

2. What did Priya write in her notebook?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya finally find the sound?

_____

_____

4. What was making the buzzing?

_____

_____

5. How did Priya's notebook help her solve the mystery?

_____

_____

6. How did the phone end up in the flour?

_____

_____

Words to know

detective: a person who looks for clues to solve a mystery
pantry: a small room or cupboard where food is kept
bursts: short, sudden bits of something
rectangle: a flat shape with four corners and two long sides

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 Hum Inside the Flour Bin

Square group

For two entire days, a faint buzzing sound drifted through Priya's kitchen. It came and went mysteriously, and nobody could locate it. Her little brother insisted that it was a ghost, while her father was certain it was the refrigerator.

Priya decided to become a detective. Armed with a notebook, she recorded exactly when the buzzing occurred. It always arrived in short bursts, a few seconds apart, and always when the house was calm.

First she pressed her ear against the refrigerator, but heard nothing unusual. Then she inspected the window, the toaster, and the old radio on the shelf, with the same result. However, as she walked toward the pantry, the sound grew steadily louder.

Priya opened the pantry door and followed the hum to a large flour bin. She lifted the lid, carefully dug through the soft white flour, and pulled out a flat gray rectangle. It was her father's phone, and it buzzed once more in her hand!

Her father had dropped it into the bin while reaching for a bag of sugar and had never noticed. He laughed and thanked her warmly. Priya brushed off the flour and wrote one final line in her notebook: "Case closed."

Questions

1. How long had the buzzing sound drifted through the kitchen?

_____

_____

2. What did Priya record in her notebook?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya finally locate the sound?

_____

_____

4. What was causing the buzzing?

_____

_____

5. How did Priya's notes help her solve the mystery?

_____

_____

6. How did the phone end up in the flour?

_____

_____

Words to know

detective: a person who looks for clues to solve a mystery
pantry: a small room or cupboard where food is kept
bursts: short, sudden bits of something
rectangle: a flat shape with four corners and two long sides

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 Hum Inside the Flour Bin

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

Circle: The Hum Inside the Flour Bin

Easier · 154 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.3

1. Two days.
2. When the buzz came.
3. In the flour bin in the pantry.
4. Her father's phone.
5. It showed the buzz came in short bursts when the house was quiet.
6. Her father dropped it there by mistake and did not know.

Triangle: The Hum Inside the Flour Bin

This passage · 187 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.6

1. Two days.
2. When the buzzing happened.
3. In the flour bin in the pantry.
4. Her father's phone.
5. It showed the buzzing came in short bursts when the house was calm, which told her to listen closely.
6. Her father dropped it there while reaching for sugar and never noticed.

Square: The Hum Inside the Flour Bin

Harder · 201 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.3

1. For two entire days.
2. Exactly when the buzzing occurred.
3. In a large flour bin in the pantry.
4. Her father's phone.
5. They showed the buzzing came in short bursts when the house was calm, so she knew to listen closely.
6. Her father dropped it there while reaching for sugar and never noticed.