Name: _____ Date: _____

Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

Circle group

Every June, the town of Brinewick held a parade for its famous pickles. The best part was the Giant Pickle float. It was a green truck covered in bumpy paper. On top sat a smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.

This year the float builders worked in a shed by the bakery. The bakery was making a float too. It was a huge birthday cake for the mayor. Under their cloths, the two floats looked alike. On parade morning, a sleepy driver named Gus drove off with the wrong one.

The crowd cheered as a pink cake rolled down Main Street. "Where are the pickles?" a girl called out.

Behind Gus came the pickle float. A baker drove it, and he did not know the way. A green pickle had sprinkles and a candle on it.

Everyone laughed. Then Gus had an idea. He parked both floats side by side in the square.

"Cake and pickles!" said the mayor. "Why not?"

Since then, Brinewick puts a pickle slice on every birthday cake. Some people say it tastes odd. Most ask for more.

Questions

1. What sat on top of the Giant Pickle float?

_____

_____

2. Why did the two floats look alike?

_____

_____

3. Who drove off with the wrong float?

_____

_____

4. What did Gus do when he saw the mix-up?

_____

_____

5. Why did the girl ask where the pickles were?

_____

_____

6. How did the mix-up change the town's birthdays?

_____

_____

Words to know

parade: a line of people and floats that march through town
float: a decorated truck or cart in a parade

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: _____

Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

Triangle group

Every June, the town of Brinewick held a parade to honor its famous pickles. The best part was the Giant Pickle float, a green truck covered in bumpy paper and topped with a smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.

This year, the float builders worked in a shed beside the bakery. The bakery was building a float too, a huge birthday cake for the mayor's party. The two floats looked a lot alike under their cloths. Early on parade morning, a sleepy driver named Gus drove off with the wrong one.

The crowd cheered as a pink cake rolled down Main Street. On top of it sat a tiny drummer who was supposed to wave from the Giant Pickle. "Where are the pickles?" a girl called out.

Behind Gus came the pickle float, driven by a baker who did not know the way. Frosting was supposed to be on the cake. Instead, a green pickle was frosted with sprinkles and a candle.

Everyone laughed at the sight. Then Gus had an idea. He parked the two floats side by side in the square.

"Cake and pickles!" shouted the mayor. "Why not?"

Brinewick has served a pickle slice on every birthday cake since then. Some people say it tastes odd. Most ask for seconds.

Questions

1. What was the Giant Pickle float topped with?

_____

_____

2. Why did the two floats look alike?

_____

_____

3. Who drove off with the wrong float?

_____

_____

4. What did Gus do when he saw the mix-up?

_____

_____

5. Why did the girl in the crowd ask where the pickles were?

_____

_____

6. How did the mix-up change the town's birthday parties?

_____

_____

Words to know

parade: a line of people and floats that march through town
float: a decorated truck or cart in a parade
frosting: the sweet, creamy topping on a cake
honor: to show respect or give praise

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: _____

Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

Square group

Every June, the town of Brinewick staged an enormous parade to celebrate its famous pickles. The highlight was always the Giant Pickle float, a green truck draped in bumpy paper and crowned with a smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.

This year, the float builders worked in a shed beside the bakery. The bakery, meanwhile, was constructing a float of its own, a gigantic birthday cake for the mayor's party. Beneath their cloths, the two floats looked remarkably similar. Early on parade morning, a sleepy driver named Gus rumbled away with the wrong one.

The crowd cheered as a pink cake rolled down Main Street. Perched on top was a tiny drummer who had been meant to wave from the Giant Pickle. "Where are the pickles?" a girl called out.

Trailing behind Gus came the pickle float, steered by a baker who had no idea where he was going. The cake that should have been covered in frosting was instead a green pickle decorated with sprinkles and a candle.

Everyone burst into laughter. Then Gus had an inspired idea. He parked the two floats side by side in the town square.

"Cake and pickles!" the mayor shouted. "Why not?"

Brinewick has served a pickle slice on every birthday cake ever since. Some people insist it tastes strange. Most of them ask for seconds.

Questions

1. What was perched on top of the Giant Pickle float?

_____

_____

2. Why did the two floats look so much alike?

_____

_____

3. Who accidentally drove away with the wrong float?

_____

_____

4. How did Gus respond once he saw the mix-up?

_____

_____

5. Why did the girl in the crowd ask where the pickles were?

_____

_____

6. How did the mix-up change birthdays in Brinewick?

_____

_____

Words to know

parade: a line of people and floats that march through town
float: a decorated truck or cart in a parade
frosting: the sweet, creamy topping on a cake

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: Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

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

Circle: Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

Easier · 181 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. A smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.
2. They were covered with cloths in the same shed.
3. A sleepy driver named Gus.
4. He parked both floats side by side in the square.
5. She expected a pickle float but saw a cake float.
6. The town now puts a pickle slice on every birthday cake.

Triangle: Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

This passage · 212 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.9

1. A smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.
2. They were both covered with cloths in the same shed.
3. A sleepy driver named Gus.
4. He parked the two floats side by side in the square.
5. She expected a pickle float but saw a cake float.
6. The town now puts a pickle slice on every birthday cake.

Square: Mix-Up at the Pickle Parade

Harder · 222 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. A smiling cucumber named Mr. Crunch.
2. Both were covered with cloths in the same shed.
3. A sleepy driver named Gus.
4. He parked the two floats side by side in the town square.
5. She expected the pickle float but a cake float came first.
6. The town began putting a pickle slice on every birthday cake.