Name: _____ Date: _____

Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

Circle group

They say Pancake Pete once made the biggest breakfast ever. His griddle was as wide as a pond. His spatula was a barn door on a stick.

One snowy winter, Maple Lane was just mud and puddles. Wagons got stuck. The milkman had been pulling his cart out of the muck for weeks. Pete felt sorry for him.

"I can fix that," said Pete. "I'm hungry anyway."

He mixed batter from a hundred sacks of flour and a river of milk. He poured it on the griddle. It sizzled so loudly that three towns woke up. When one side was golden, Pete flipped it with a mighty heave. The pancake flew high. It spun twice. It landed with a soft *flump* along the whole length of Maple Lane.

It was warm, flat, and smooth. The wagons rolled right over it. The milkman sang all the way to market.

The only trouble was the smell. Every squirrel and sparrow in the county came to nibble the road. So Pete poured syrup on top to keep it shiny. Then he went back to make a second breakfast.

Questions

1. Why was Maple Lane hard to travel on?

_____

_____

2. What was Pete's spatula like?

_____

_____

3. How did Pete cook the pancake on both sides?

_____

_____

4. What did Pete pour on the road to keep it shiny?

_____

_____

5. Why did squirrels and sparrows come to the road?

_____

_____

6. How can you tell this is a tall tale?

_____

_____

Words to know

griddle: a flat metal pan for cooking pancakes
batter: a thick mix of flour and milk before it is cooked
sizzled: made a hissing sound while frying
spatula: a flat tool used to flip food

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: _____

Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

Triangle group

They say Pancake Pete once made the biggest breakfast the world had ever seen. His griddle was as wide as a pond, and his spatula was a barn door on a stick.

One snowy winter, the road called Maple Lane was nothing but mud and puddles. Wagons got stuck up to their axles. Pete felt sorry for the milkman, who had been pulling his cart out of the muck for weeks.

"I can fix that," said Pete. "I'm hungry anyway."

He mixed a batter from a hundred sacks of flour and a river of milk. He poured it across the griddle, and it sizzled so loudly that three towns woke up. When it was golden on one side, Pete flipped it with a mighty heave. The pancake flew high, spun twice, and landed with a soft *flump* along the whole length of Maple Lane.

It was warm, flat, and perfectly smooth. The wagons rolled right over it. The milkman sang all the way to market.

The only trouble was the smell. Every squirrel and sparrow in the county came to nibble the road. So Pete poured a little syrup on top to keep it shiny, and then he went back to the griddle to make a second breakfast.

Questions

1. Why was Maple Lane hard to travel on?

_____

_____

2. What was Pete's spatula like?

_____

_____

3. How did Pete cook the giant pancake on both sides?

_____

_____

4. What did Pete pour on the road to keep it shiny?

_____

_____

5. Why did squirrels and sparrows come to the road?

_____

_____

6. How can you tell this story is a tall tale?

_____

_____

Words to know

griddle: a flat metal pan for cooking pancakes
batter: a thick mix of flour and milk before it is cooked
sizzled: made a hissing sound while frying
axles: the bars that the wheels of a wagon turn on
spatula: a flat tool used to flip food

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: _____

Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

Square group

They say that Pancake Pete once cooked the largest breakfast the world had ever seen. His griddle was as wide as a pond, and his spatula was a barn door attached to a pole.

One snowy winter, the road called Maple Lane was nothing but mud and puddles. Wagons sank up to their axles, and the poor milkman had spent weeks hauling his cart out of the muck. Pete felt genuinely sorry for him.

"I can fix that," announced Pete. "I'm hungry anyway."

He stirred together a batter made from a hundred sacks of flour and a river of milk. When he poured it across the griddle, it sizzled so thunderously that three towns woke up. Once it had turned golden on one side, Pete flipped it with a mighty heave. The pancake soared high into the air, spun twice, and landed with a soft *flump* along the entire length of Maple Lane.

It was warm, flat, and perfectly smooth. The wagons rolled over it without a bump, and the milkman sang all the way to market.

The only difficulty was the delicious smell. Every squirrel and sparrow in the county came to nibble at the road. So Pete drizzled syrup over the top to keep it glossy, and then he hurried back to the griddle to cook a second breakfast.

Questions

1. Why was Maple Lane so difficult to travel on?

_____

_____

2. How is Pete's spatula described?

_____

_____

3. How did Pete cook the pancake on its second side?

_____

_____

4. What did Pete drizzle over the road to keep it glossy?

_____

_____

5. Why did squirrels and sparrows come to nibble at the road?

_____

_____

6. What makes this story a tall tale?

_____

_____

Words to know

griddle: a flat metal pan for cooking pancakes
batter: a thick mix of flour and milk before it is cooked
sizzled: made a hissing sound while frying
axles: the bars that the wheels of a wagon turn on
spatula: a flat tool used to flip food

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: Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

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

Circle: Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

Easier · 185 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. It was mud and puddles that stuck the wagons.
2. A barn door on a stick.
3. He flipped it with a mighty heave.
4. Syrup.
5. The road was a pancake, so they wanted to nibble it.
6. It tells about huge, impossible things like a road made of pancake.

Triangle: Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

This passage · 208 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.9

1. It was mud and puddles that stuck the wagons.
2. A barn door on a stick.
3. He flipped it with a mighty heave.
4. A little syrup.
5. The road was a pancake, so they wanted to nibble it.
6. It tells about huge, impossible things like a pond-sized griddle and a road made of pancake.

Square: Pancake Pete Paves Maple Lane

Harder · 221 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. It was mud and puddles that trapped the wagons.
2. As a barn door attached to a pole.
3. He flipped it with a mighty heave.
4. Syrup.
5. The road was a pancake, so it smelled delicious and was good to eat.
6. It describes huge, impossible things, like a pond-sized griddle and a road made of pancake.