Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

Circle group

Some families check a tide table before a trip to the beach. A tide table is a chart. It tells when the sea will be high and low. The water does not stay in one place.

On many coasts, the sea goes up and down two times a day. At high tide, the water comes farthest up the beach. At low tide, it goes farthest out. The moon's pull is a main cause. It takes a little more than six hours to go from high to low.

Try a pretend table. High tide is at 6:00 a.m. Low tide is at 12:15 p.m. How long does the water go out? From 6:00 to 12:00 is six hours. Add 15 more minutes. That is six hours and fifteen minutes.

At low tide, more sand and rocks show. That is a good time to look for shells and tide pools.

The tides come a bit less than an hour later each day. Read today's table, and stay near a grown-up.

Questions

1. What does a tide table tell you?

_____

_____

2. What is high tide?

_____

_____

3. What is a main cause of the tides?

_____

_____

4. How long does the water go out in the pretend table?

_____

_____

5. When should you look for shells and tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why can you not use yesterday's table?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
chart: information set out in rows and columns so it is easy to read
coasts: the places where land meets the sea

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: _____

Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

Triangle group

Before a trip to the seashore, some families check a tide table. A tide table is a chart that lists the times when the ocean will be high and low, and it is a handy guide because the water does not stay in one place all day long.

On many coasts, the sea rises and falls two times each day, and high tide is when the water reaches farthest up the beach while low tide is when it pulls back the farthest. The moon's pull on the ocean is a main cause of these changes, and the trip from high tide to low tide takes a little more than six hours.

Here is a pretend tide table for one morning. High tide is at 6:00 a.m. Low tide is at 12:15 p.m. How long will the water go out? Count from 6:00 to 12:00, which is six hours. Then add the extra 15 minutes. The answer is six hours and fifteen minutes.

Why does it matter? At low tide, more sand and rock are uncovered. That is the best time to look for shells and to peek into tide pools. There is one more thing to know. Each day, the tides come a bit less than an hour later than the day before. So you cannot use yesterday's table. Always read today's, and stay close to a grown-up near the water.

Questions

1. What does a tide table list?

_____

_____

2. What is high tide?

_____

_____

3. What is a main cause of the tides?

_____

_____

4. In the pretend table, how long does the water go out?

_____

_____

5. When is the best time to look for shells and peek into tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why can you not use yesterday's tide table today?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
chart: information set out in rows and columns so it is easy to read
coasts: the places where land meets the sea
uncovered: no longer hidden under water or anything else

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: _____

Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

Square group

Before traveling to the seashore, many families consult a tide table. A tide table is a chart that lists the times when the ocean will be high and when it will be low. It is an extremely useful guide because the water never stays in one place throughout the day.

Along many coasts, the sea rises and falls twice every day. High tide is the moment when the water reaches farthest up the beach, while low tide is when it retreats the farthest. The moon's pull on the ocean is a main cause of these changes, and the journey from high tide to low tide takes a little more than six hours.

Here is a pretend tide table for a single morning. High tide arrives at 6:00 a.m., and low tide arrives at 12:15 p.m. How long will the water be going out? Count from 6:00 to 12:00, which gives six hours, and then add the extra 15 minutes. The answer is six hours and fifteen minutes.

Why does this matter? At low tide, far more sand and rock are uncovered, so it is the best time to hunt for shells and to peek into tide pools. There is one more detail to remember. Each day the tides arrive a bit less than an hour later than they did the day before, so yesterday's table will not help you. Always read today's, and stay close to a grown-up near the water.

Questions

1. What information does a tide table list?

_____

_____

2. What is high tide?

_____

_____

3. What is a main cause of the changing tides?

_____

_____

4. In the pretend table, how long is the water going out?

_____

_____

5. When is the best time to hunt for shells and peek into tide pools?

_____

_____

6. Why will yesterday's tide table not help you today?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
chart: information set out in rows and columns so it is easy to read
coasts: the places where land meets the sea
uncovered: no longer hidden under water or anything else

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: Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

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

Circle: Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

Easier · 166 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.9

1. When the sea will be high and low.
2. When the water comes farthest up the beach.
3. The moon's pull.
4. Six hours and fifteen minutes.
5. At low tide, when more sand and rocks show.
6. The tides come a bit later each day, so the times change.

Triangle: Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

This passage · 229 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.3

1. The times when the ocean will be high and low.
2. The time when the water reaches farthest up the beach.
3. The moon's pull on the ocean.
4. Six hours and fifteen minutes.
5. At low tide, when more sand and rock are uncovered.
6. The tides come a bit less than an hour later each day, so the times have changed.

Square: Reading the Tide Table Before the Beach

Harder · 239 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.2

1. The times when the ocean will be high and low.
2. The moment when the water reaches farthest up the beach.
3. The moon's pull on the ocean.
4. Six hours and fifteen minutes.
5. At low tide, when far more sand and rock are uncovered.
6. The tides arrive a bit less than an hour later each day, so the times have shifted.