Name: _____ Date: _____

# The Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

Circle group

Noor had been an only child for nine years. Then her baby brother Idris came home. The whole house changed. Everyone whispered. Everyone tiptoed. Nobody had time to hear about her spelling test.

One evening, Idris got the hiccups. Hic! His body bounced in Mom's arms. Hic! His face turned pink. Mom patted his back. Dad hummed a song. Nothing helped. Soon the baby was crying.

Noor stood in the doorway with her arms crossed. Then she remembered something. When she had the hiccups, her grandmother made her laugh. The hiccups went away.

Noor crossed her eyes. She stuck out her tongue. She wiggled her ears. She made a sound like a goose with a cold.

Idris stared at her. He made a little gurgle. It was almost a laugh. Hic... and then no more.

"How did you do that?" asked Dad.

"I'm his big sister," said Noor. "I know things."

Mom smiled at her. "Yes," she said softly. "You do."

Noor stood up a little taller. Maybe having a brother was not so bad.

## Questions

**1. How long had Noor been an only child?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened to Idris one evening?**

_____

_____

**3. What did Noor remember about her grandmother?**

_____

_____

**4. What silly things did Noor do?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Noor feel left out at first?**

_____

_____

**6. Why did Noor stand up taller at the end?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

tiptoed: walked quietly on the tips of the toes

hiccups: little jumps in the chest that make a quick sound

## 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 Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

Triangle group

Noor had been an only child for nine years, but then her baby brother Idris came home and the whole house changed, because everyone whispered and tiptoed and nobody had time to hear about her spelling test.

One evening, Idris got the hiccups, and his whole body bounced in Mom's arms with every hic. His face scrunched up and turned pink while Mom patted his back and Dad hummed a lullaby. Nothing helped, and soon the baby was crying.

Noor stood in the doorway with her arms crossed, until she remembered something important. When she got the hiccups, her grandmother always made her laugh until they went away.

Noor crossed her eyes, stuck out her tongue, wiggled her ears, and made a sound like a goose with a cold.

Idris stared at her for a moment, and then he made a little gurgle that was almost a laugh. Hic... and then no more.

"How did you do that?" asked Dad.

"I'm his big sister," said Noor. "I know things."

Mom smiled at her over the baby's head. "Yes," she said softly. "You do."

Noor stood up a little taller. Maybe having a brother was not so bad. Maybe he needed someone who knew things.

## Questions

**1. How long had Noor been an only child?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened to Idris one evening?**

_____

_____

**3. What did Noor remember about her grandmother?**

_____

_____

**4. What silly things did Noor do to make the baby laugh?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Noor feel left out at first?**

_____

_____

**6. Why did Noor stand up a little taller at the end?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

tiptoed: walked quietly on the tips of the toes
hiccups: little jumps in the chest that make a quick sound
scrunched: squeezed or wrinkled up
lullaby: a soft, gentle song for a baby

## 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 Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

Square group

Noor had been an only child for nine whole years, but then her baby brother Idris came home, and the entire household was transformed, because everyone whispered and tiptoed and nobody seemed to have a spare moment to hear about her spelling test.

One evening, Idris came down with the hiccups, and his whole body bounced in Mom's arms with every single hic. His tiny face scrunched up and turned pink while Mom patted his back and Dad hummed a lullaby, but nothing helped, and before long the baby was wailing.

Noor stood in the doorway with her arms crossed, until she suddenly remembered something remarkable: whenever she had the hiccups, her grandmother used to make her laugh until they disappeared.

Noor crossed her eyes, stuck out her tongue, wiggled her ears, and produced a sound like a goose with a terrible head cold.

Idris stared at her in astonishment for a moment, and then he let out a small gurgle that was almost a laugh. Hic... and then, miraculously, no more.

"How on earth did you do that?" asked Dad.

"I'm his big sister," said Noor. "I know things."

Mom smiled at her over the baby's head. "Yes," she said softly. "You do."

Noor stood up a little taller. Perhaps having a brother was not so bad after all. Perhaps he needed someone who knew things.

## Questions

**1. For how many years had Noor been an only child?**

_____

_____

**2. What happened to Idris one evening?**

_____

_____

**3. What did Noor remember about what her grandmother used to do?**

_____

_____

**4. What silly things did Noor do to make the baby laugh?**

_____

_____

**5. Why did Noor feel left out when the baby first came home?**

_____

_____

**6. Why did Noor stand up a little taller at the end of the story?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

tiptoed: walked quietly on the tips of the toes
hiccups: little jumps in the chest that make a quick sound
scrunched: squeezed or wrinkled up
lullaby: a soft, gentle song for a baby

## 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 Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

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

### Circle: The Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

Easier · 175 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.1

1. Nine years.
2. He got the hiccups.
3. Her grandmother made her laugh, and the hiccups went away.
4. She crossed her eyes, stuck out her tongue, wiggled her ears, and made a goose sound.
5. Everyone was busy with the baby. Nobody had time for her spelling test.
6. She felt proud that she had helped.

### Triangle: The Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

This passage · 204 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4

1. Nine years.
2. He got the hiccups.
3. Her grandmother made her laugh until her hiccups went away.
4. She crossed her eyes, stuck out her tongue, wiggled her ears, and made a goose sound.
5. Everyone was busy with the baby, and nobody had time to hear about her spelling test.
6. She felt proud that she had helped and that her family needed her.

### Square: The Goose Face That Stopped the Hiccups

Harder · 227 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.2

1. Nine years.
2. He came down with the hiccups.
3. Her grandmother made her laugh until her hiccups disappeared.
4. She crossed her eyes, stuck out her tongue, wiggled her ears, and made a goose sound.
5. Everyone was so busy with the baby that nobody had time to hear about her spelling test.
6. She felt proud that she had helped and that her family needed her.