Name: _____ Date: _____

The Scarf That Kept Growing

Circle group

Ingrid wanted to knit a scarf for her father. Her neighbor, Mrs. Pell, showed her how to cast on twenty stitches. She showed her how to wrap the yarn around the needle.

Ingrid knitted every evening. The rows grew like a green hill. After a week, she saw a problem. The scarf was not straight. It was wide at the bottom and thin in the middle. It bulged like a bowling pin.

"I think I add stitches by accident," she told Mrs. Pell.

Mrs. Pell counted. Some rows had twenty-six stitches. Some had twenty-three. "You are splitting the yarn," she said. "That makes extra stitches. Count at the end of every row."

Ingrid wanted to pull it all out. But Mrs. Pell said, "See it as a map of what you learned." So Ingrid left the lumpy part and counted each row.

The rest came out neat and even. One end was a little wobbly. Her father did not mind. He wore it to the bus stop on the first cold day.

"It is the only scarf in town with a belly," he joked. He wore it all winter.

Questions

1. Who helped Ingrid learn to knit?

_____

_____

2. Who was the scarf for?

_____

_____

3. What was wrong with the scarf after a week?

_____

_____

4. Why did the stitches change from row to row?

_____

_____

5. What did Mrs. Pell tell Ingrid to do?

_____

_____

6. What did Mrs. Pell mean by a map of what Ingrid learned?

_____

_____

7. How can you tell her father liked the scarf?

_____

_____

Words to know

stitches: the loops of yarn that make up knitting
bulged: stuck out in a round shape
accident: something that happens without meaning to
wobbly: uneven and shaky

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 Scarf That Kept Growing

Triangle group

Ingrid decided to knit a scarf for her father. Her neighbor Mrs. Pell showed her how to cast on twenty stitches and how to wrap the yarn around the needle.

Ingrid worked on the scarf every evening. The rows built up slowly, like a green hill. But after a week, she noticed a problem. The scarf was not straight. It was wide at the bottom and thin in the middle, and it bulged out like a bowling pin.

"I think I am adding stitches by accident," she told Mrs. Pell.

Mrs. Pell counted. The scarf now had twenty-six stitches in some rows and twenty-three in others. "You are splitting the yarn and making little extras," she said. "Try counting at the end of every row."

Ingrid wanted to pull out the whole scarf and start again. But Mrs. Pell said, "Look at it as a map of everything you have learned." So Ingrid left the lumpy part where it was and began counting each row.

The rest of the scarf came out neat and even. It was a little wobbly at one end, but her father did not mind. He wore it to the bus stop on the first cold morning.

"It is the only scarf in town with a belly," he joked, and he wore it all winter.

Questions

1. Who helped Ingrid learn to knit?

_____

_____

2. Who was the scarf for?

_____

_____

3. What was wrong with the scarf after a week?

_____

_____

4. Why did the number of stitches change from row to row?

_____

_____

5. What did Mrs. Pell tell Ingrid to do to fix the problem?

_____

_____

6. What did Mrs. Pell mean by calling the scarf a map of what Ingrid learned?

_____

_____

7. How can you tell her father liked the scarf?

_____

_____

Words to know

stitches: the loops of yarn that make up knitting
bulged: stuck out in a round shape
accident: something that happens without meaning to
wobbly: uneven and shaky

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 Scarf That Kept Growing

Square group

Ingrid resolved to knit a scarf for her father. Her neighbor, Mrs. Pell, demonstrated how to cast on twenty stitches and how to loop the yarn around the needle in the proper way.

Ingrid worked on the scarf every evening, and the rows accumulated slowly, like a green hill rising from the needles. After a week, however, she noticed a serious problem. The scarf was not straight. It was broad at the bottom and narrow in the middle, and it bulged outward like a bowling pin.

"I suspect that I am adding stitches by accident," she confessed to Mrs. Pell.

Mrs. Pell counted carefully. Some rows now contained twenty-six stitches, while others contained only twenty-three. "You are splitting the yarn and creating little extras," she explained. "Try counting at the end of every single row."

Ingrid was tempted to unravel the entire scarf and begin again. But Mrs. Pell suggested, "Think of it as a map of everything you have learned so far." So Ingrid left the lumpy section exactly where it was and began counting each row.

The remainder of the scarf turned out neat and even. It was slightly wobbly at one end, but her father did not mind in the least. He wore it to the bus stop on the first chilly morning.

"It is the only scarf in town with a belly," he joked, and he wore it faithfully all winter.

Questions

1. Who showed Ingrid how to knit?

_____

_____

2. Who was the scarf intended for?

_____

_____

3. What was wrong with the scarf after a week?

_____

_____

4. Why did the number of stitches vary from row to row?

_____

_____

5. What did Mrs. Pell advise Ingrid to do to solve the problem?

_____

_____

6. What did Mrs. Pell mean when she called the scarf a map of what Ingrid had learned?

_____

_____

7. How can you tell that her father appreciated the scarf?

_____

_____

Words to know

stitches: the loops of yarn that make up knitting
bulged: stuck out in a round shape
accident: something that happens without meaning to
wobbly: uneven and shaky

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 Scarf That Kept Growing

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

Circle: The Scarf That Kept Growing

Easier · 191 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.9

1. Her neighbor, Mrs. Pell.
2. Ingrid's father.
3. It was wide at the bottom, thin in the middle and bulged.
4. Ingrid was splitting the yarn and making extra stitches.
5. Count the stitches at the end of every row.
6. The lumpy part showed her mistakes and the neat part showed what she learned.
7. He wore it all winter and joked kindly about it.

Triangle: The Scarf That Kept Growing

This passage · 221 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.7

1. Her neighbor, Mrs. Pell.
2. Ingrid's father.
3. It was wide at the bottom, thin in the middle, and bulged out.
4. Ingrid was splitting the yarn and making extra stitches by accident.
5. Count the stitches at the end of every row.
6. The lumpy part showed her mistakes, and the neat part showed what she had learned from them.
7. He wore it all winter and joked about it kindly.

Square: The Scarf That Kept Growing

Harder · 237 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6

1. Her neighbor, Mrs. Pell.
2. Ingrid's father.
3. It was broad at the bottom, narrow in the middle and bulged outward.
4. Ingrid was splitting the yarn and creating extra stitches by accident.
5. Count the stitches at the end of every single row.
6. The lumpy section recorded her mistakes, and the neat section showed what she had learned from them.
7. He wore it all winter and joked about it kindly.