Name: _____ Date: _____

The Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

Circle group

The elevator in Hollis Court broke on a Monday. A sign said it would be fixed in a week. Most people grumbled and used the stairs. But Mrs. Abara lived on the sixth floor. Her knees did not like stairs.

On Tuesday, Mateo found her sitting on the first landing. A heavy bag of groceries was at her feet. She was breathing hard.

"May I carry that up one flight?" asked Mateo. He took the bag to the second floor. He knocked on his friend Lena's door. Lena understood right away. She took the bag to the third floor. A boy named Oskar was waiting. He took it to the fourth. Two more kids took it to the fifth and the sixth.

Mrs. Abara climbed slowly behind her groceries. She rested when she needed to. At last she reached her door. The bag was waiting on the mat. Every egg was whole.

All week, the kids stood on their landings each afternoon like runners in a race. On Monday, the elevator hummed again. That evening, a tray of warm cookies sat on the first floor. A note said, "For the relay team."

Questions

1. Why were stairs hard for Mrs. Abara?

_____

_____

2. How long would the elevator take to fix, the sign said?

_____

_____

3. How did the groceries get to the sixth floor?

_____

_____

4. What did Mrs. Abara leave at the end?

_____

_____

5. Why are the kids compared to runners in a race?

_____

_____

6. How did Mrs. Abara feel about the kids' help?

_____

_____

Words to know

grumbled: complained in a low, unhappy voice
landing: the flat place at the top or bottom of a set of stairs
groceries: food and other things bought at a store
flight: one set of stairs between two floors

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 Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

Triangle group

The elevator in Hollis Court broke on a Monday. A sign said it would be fixed in a week. Most people grumbled and climbed the stairs. But Mrs. Abara lived on the sixth floor, and her knees did not like stairs at all.

On Tuesday, Mateo found her sitting on the first landing with a heavy bag of groceries at her feet. She was breathing hard.

"May I carry that up one flight?" asked Mateo. He took the bag to the second floor and knocked on the door of his friend Lena. Lena understood right away. She carried the bag up to the third floor, where a boy named Oskar was waiting. Oskar took it to the fourth. Two more kids took it to the fifth and the sixth.

Mrs. Abara climbed slowly behind her groceries, resting when she needed to. When she finally reached her door, the bag was waiting on the mat. Every egg was whole.

All week, the kids stood on their landings each afternoon like runners in a race, ready to pass the bag along. On Monday, the elevator hummed again. That evening, a tray of warm cookies sat on the first floor with a note: "For the relay team."

Questions

1. Why was the stairs hard for Mrs. Abara?

_____

_____

2. How long would the sign say the elevator needed to be fixed?

_____

_____

3. How did the groceries get all the way to the sixth floor?

_____

_____

4. What did Mrs. Abara leave for the kids at the end?

_____

_____

5. Why does the story compare the kids to runners in a race?

_____

_____

6. How do you think Mrs. Abara felt about the kids' help?

_____

_____

Words to know

grumbled: complained in a low, unhappy voice
landing: the flat place at the top or bottom of a set of stairs
groceries: food and other things bought at a store
flight: one set of stairs between two floors

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 Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

Square group

The elevator in Hollis Court broke down on a Monday, and a sign on the wall promised that it would be repaired within a week. Most residents grumbled and trudged up the stairs. But Mrs. Abara lived on the sixth floor, and her knees did not tolerate stairs at all.

On Tuesday, Mateo discovered her sitting on the first landing with a heavy bag of groceries at her feet, breathing hard.

"May I carry that up one flight?" asked Mateo. He hauled the bag to the second floor and knocked on the door of his friend Lena. Lena understood immediately. She carried the bag up to the third floor, where a boy named Oskar was waiting, and Oskar took it to the fourth. Two more kids carried it to the fifth and the sixth.

Mrs. Abara climbed slowly behind her groceries, pausing to rest whenever she needed to. When she finally arrived at her door, the bag was waiting on the mat, and every egg was still whole.

All week, the kids stood on their landings each afternoon like runners in a race, ready to pass the bag along. On the following Monday, the elevator hummed to life again. That evening, a tray of warm cookies appeared on the first floor with a note that read, "For the relay team."

Questions

1. Why were stairs difficult for Mrs. Abara?

_____

_____

2. How long did the sign say the elevator repair would take?

_____

_____

3. How did the groceries reach the sixth floor?

_____

_____

4. What did Mrs. Abara leave for the kids at the end of the story?

_____

_____

5. Why does the story compare the kids to runners in a race?

_____

_____

6. How do you think Mrs. Abara felt about the kids' help?

_____

_____

Words to know

grumbled: complained in a low, unhappy voice
landing: the flat place at the top or bottom of a set of stairs
groceries: food and other things bought at a store
flight: one set of stairs between two floors

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 Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

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

Circle: The Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

Easier · 192 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. Her knees did not like stairs, and she lived on the sixth floor.
2. One week.
3. Kids on different floors each carried the bag up one flight.
4. A tray of warm cookies with a note.
5. They passed the bag along, like runners pass a baton.
6. Thankful. She baked cookies to thank them.

Triangle: The Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

This passage · 204 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.1

1. Her knees did not like stairs, and she lived on the sixth floor.
2. One week.
3. Kids on different floors each carried the bag up one flight.
4. A tray of warm cookies with a note.
5. They passed the bag from one to the next, the way runners pass a baton.
6. Thankful, because she baked cookies to thank the relay team.

Square: The Stair Relay for Mrs. Abara

Harder · 220 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.5

1. Her knees did not tolerate stairs, and she lived on the sixth floor.
2. Within a week.
3. Kids on different floors each carried the bag up one flight.
4. A tray of warm cookies with a note for the relay team.
5. They passed the bag from one to the next, the way runners pass a baton.
6. Grateful, because she baked cookies to thank the relay team.