Name: _____ Date: _____

The Treehouse Sign

Circle group

Dev and his cousin Rosa built a treehouse in the backyard. Dad helped. When it was done, they both wanted to make a sign for the door. Dev wanted it to say "Dev's Fort." Rosa wanted it to say "Rosa's Castle."

"It is called a fort," said Dev. "It is a castle," said Rosa. Soon they were not speaking at all. They sat on opposite sides of the tree with their arms crossed. The treehouse sat empty.

Dad climbed up the ladder and saw the two grumpy cousins. "It took both of you to build this treehouse," he said. "Maybe the sign should show that." Then he went back down so they could think.

After a while, Rosa spoke first. "We could use both names," she said. "What about Fort Castle?" Dev laughed. "Rosa and Dev's Fort Castle," he said. They painted the sign together, with one name on each side of the door. When it dried, they hung it up, climbed inside, and played until dark.

Questions

1. Who helped Dev and Rosa build the treehouse?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev want the sign to say? What did Rosa want?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the treehouse after the argument?

_____

_____

4. What did Dad hope the cousins would think about?

_____

_____

5. How did Dev and Rosa solve the problem?

_____

_____

6. Why was the treehouse a happier place at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

cousin: the child of your aunt or uncle
fort: a strong building made for safety or play
ladder: a set of steps used for climbing up or down

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 Treehouse Sign

Triangle group

Dev and his cousin Rosa built a treehouse in the backyard with some help from Dad. When it was finally finished, they both wanted to make a sign for the door, and they could not agree on a name. Dev wanted it to say "Dev's Fort." Rosa wanted it to say "Rosa's Castle."

"It is called a fort," said Dev. "It is a castle," said Rosa. Before long, they were not speaking to each other at all. They sat on opposite sides of the tree with their arms crossed, and the new treehouse sat empty.

Dad climbed up the ladder and looked at the two sulking cousins for a moment. "This treehouse took both of you to build," he said. "Maybe the sign should show that." Then he went back down and left them to think.

After a while, Rosa spoke first. "We could use both names," she said. "What about Fort Castle?" Dev laughed. "Rosa and Dev's Fort Castle," he said. They painted the sign together, with one name on each side of the door. When it dried, they hung it up, climbed inside, and played until dark.

Questions

1. Who helped Dev and Rosa build the treehouse?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev want the sign to say? What did Rosa want?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the treehouse after the argument?

_____

_____

4. What did Dad hope the cousins would think about?

_____

_____

5. How did Dev and Rosa solve the problem?

_____

_____

6. Why was the treehouse a happier place at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

cousin: the child of your aunt or uncle
fort: a strong building made for safety or play
sulking: staying quiet and grumpy because you are upset
ladder: a set of steps used for climbing up or down

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 Treehouse Sign

Square group

Dev and his cousin Rosa built a treehouse in the backyard with some help from Dad. When it was finally finished, they both wanted to make a sign for the door. Dev insisted that it should say "Dev's Fort," while Rosa insisted that it should say "Rosa's Castle," and neither one was willing to give in.

"It is called a fort," said Dev. "It is a castle," said Rosa. Before long, they had stopped speaking altogether. They sat on opposite sides of the tree with their arms crossed, and the beautiful new treehouse sat completely empty.

Dad climbed up the ladder and looked at the two sulking cousins. "This treehouse took both of you to build," he said. "Maybe the sign should show that." Then he went back down and left them to think it over.

After a while, Rosa spoke first. "We could use both names," she said. "What about Fort Castle?" Dev burst out laughing. "Rosa and Dev's Fort Castle," he said. They painted the sign together, with one name on each side of the door. When it dried, they hung it up, climbed inside, and played until dark.

Questions

1. Who helped Dev and Rosa build the treehouse?

_____

_____

2. What did Dev insist the sign should say? What did Rosa insist on?

_____

_____

3. What happened to the treehouse after the argument?

_____

_____

4. What did Dad hope the cousins would realize?

_____

_____

5. How did Dev and Rosa solve the problem?

_____

_____

6. Why was the treehouse a happier place at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

cousin: the child of your aunt or uncle
fort: a strong building made for safety or play
sulking: staying quiet and grumpy because you are upset
ladder: a set of steps used for climbing up or down

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 Treehouse Sign

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

Circle: The Treehouse Sign

Easier · 167 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. Dad.
2. Dev wanted "Dev's Fort" and Rosa wanted "Rosa's Castle."
3. It sat empty while the cousins sat on opposite sides of the tree.
4. That both of them built the treehouse, so the sign should show both of them.
5. They used both names and painted a sign together.
6. The cousins made peace and worked together, so both felt it belonged to them.

Triangle: The Treehouse Sign

This passage · 189 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. Dad.
2. Dev wanted "Dev's Fort" and Rosa wanted "Rosa's Castle."
3. It sat empty while the cousins sulked on opposite sides of the tree.
4. That both of them built the treehouse, so the sign should show both of them.
5. They used both names and painted a sign together.
6. The cousins had made peace and were working together, so both felt it belonged to them.

Square: The Treehouse Sign

Harder · 191 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.6

1. Dad.
2. Dev insisted on "Dev's Fort" and Rosa insisted on "Rosa's Castle."
3. It sat empty while the cousins sulked on opposite sides of the tree.
4. That both of them built the treehouse, so the sign should honor both of them.
5. They combined both names and painted a sign together.
6. The cousins had made peace and were working together, so both felt it belonged to them.