Name: _____ Date: _____

A Map of My Old Street

Circle group

After the move, Soren could not stop thinking about his old street. A bakery on the corner gave away broken cookies. A stone wall was the place where he and his friends rode scooters. A tree had a branch that bent so low that it made a bench.

At his new school, nobody knew any of it. When Soren tried to explain, his words came out flat. "It was just a good street," he said. The other kids did not seem to care.

So one evening he got a big sheet of paper and drew it all. He labeled the bakery, the wall, the bench tree, and even the crack in the sidewalk shaped like a lightning bolt. He drew tiny scooters. He drew stars where the best things had happened.

The next day, he taped the map to the wall by his desk. Karim, who sat behind him, leaned over. "Is that real?"

"Every bit," said Soren.

"Where does the lightning crack go?"

Soon three kids stood around, asking about the stars. Soren told one story after another. The old street seemed to come back, a little at a time.

That afternoon, Karim asked if Soren wanted to draw a map of the new neighborhood together.

Questions

1. What did the bakery on Soren's old street give away?

_____

_____

2. What made the tree on the old street special?

_____

_____

3. Why did Soren's first words fall flat?

_____

_____

4. What did Soren do to explain his old street better?

_____

_____

5. What do the stars on the map probably show?

_____

_____

6. Why did Karim's last question matter to Soren?

_____

_____

Words to know

labeled: wrote a name on something to show what it is
neighborhood: the area around where you live
sidewalk: a path for walking beside a street

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: _____

A Map of My Old Street

Triangle group

After the move, Soren could not stop thinking about the street where he used to live. There was a bakery on the corner that gave away broken cookies. There was a stone wall where he and his friends rode their scooters. There was a tree with a branch that bent so low that it made a bench.

At his new school, nobody knew about any of it. When Soren tried to explain, his words came out flat. "It was just a good street," he said, and he could see it did not mean anything to the other kids.

So one evening he got out a big sheet of paper and drew everything. He labeled the bakery, the wall, the bench tree, and even the crack in the sidewalk shaped like a lightning bolt. He drew tiny scooters, and little stars where the best things had happened.

The next day, he taped the map to the wall near his desk. Karim, who sat behind him, leaned over. "Is that real?"

"Every bit of it," said Soren.

"Where does the lightning crack go?"

Soon, three kids had gathered around, asking about the stars. Soren told one story after another, and the old street seemed to come back, a little at a time.

That afternoon, Karim asked if Soren wanted to draw a map of the new neighborhood together.

Questions

1. What did the bakery on Soren's old street give away?

_____

_____

2. What made the tree on the old street special?

_____

_____

3. Why did Soren's first explanation fall flat?

_____

_____

4. What did Soren do to explain his old street better?

_____

_____

5. What do the stars on the map probably show?

_____

_____

6. Why did Karim's last question mean something to Soren?

_____

_____

Words to know

labeled: wrote a name on something to show what it is
neighborhood: the area around where you live
gathered: came together in one place
sidewalk: a path for walking beside a street

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: _____

A Map of My Old Street

Square group

After the move, Soren could not stop thinking about the street where he used to live. A bakery on the corner gave away its broken cookies for free. A long stone wall was where he and his friends rode their scooters every afternoon. Best of all, there was a tree with a branch that bent so low that it made a natural bench.

At his new school, nobody knew about any of it. When Soren tried to explain, his words came out flat and lifeless. "It was just a good street," he said, and he could tell that it meant nothing to the other kids.

So one evening he spread out a large sheet of paper and drew everything he remembered. He labeled the bakery, the wall, the bench tree, and even the crack in the sidewalk that was shaped like a lightning bolt. He sketched tiny scooters, and he added little stars in the places where the best things had happened.

The next morning, he taped the map to the wall near his desk. Karim, who sat directly behind him, leaned forward. "Is that real?"

"Every single bit of it," said Soren.

"Where does the lightning crack lead?"

Before long, three kids had gathered around, asking about the stars. Soren told one story after another, and the old street seemed to return, a little at a time.

That afternoon, Karim asked whether Soren would like to draw a map of the new neighborhood together.

Questions

1. What did the bakery on Soren's old street give away for free?

_____

_____

2. What made the tree on the old street special?

_____

_____

3. Why did Soren's first explanation come out flat and lifeless?

_____

_____

4. What did Soren do to describe his old street more clearly?

_____

_____

5. What do the stars on the map most likely show?

_____

_____

6. Why did Karim's final question mean so much to Soren?

_____

_____

Words to know

labeled: wrote a name on something to show what it is
neighborhood: the area around where you live
gathered: came together in one place
sidewalk: a path for walking beside a street

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: A Map of My Old Street

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

Circle: A Map of My Old Street

Easier · 207 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.1

1. Broken cookies.
2. One branch bent low enough to make a bench.
3. He only said it was a good street, so the kids had nothing to picture.
4. He drew a map of it.
5. The places where the best things had happened.
6. It showed that Karim wanted to be his friend.

Triangle: A Map of My Old Street

This passage · 226 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.3

1. Broken cookies.
2. One branch bent low enough to make a bench.
3. He only said it was a good street, which gave the other kids nothing to picture.
4. He drew a detailed map of it.
5. The places where the best things had happened.
6. It showed that Karim wanted to be his friend and share the new neighborhood with him.

Square: A Map of My Old Street

Harder · 245 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. Its broken cookies.
2. One branch bent low enough to make a natural bench.
3. He only said it was a good street, which gave the other kids nothing to picture.
4. He drew a detailed map of it.
5. The places where the best things had happened.
6. It showed that Karim wanted to be his friend and explore the new place with him.