Name: _____ Date: _____

The Copper Rooster Stuck on North

Circle group

The copper rooster on the Hollis barn would not move. It had pointed north for a month. Every other weather vane in Dunmore spun when the wind changed.

Priya's grandfather ran the farm. He said the vane was just rusty. "Leave it," he said.

But Priya liked puzzles. On Saturday she climbed up to the high window in the hay loft. She took her grandfather's binoculars and looked at the pole.

She saw some straw under the rooster. Then a small brown bird landed there. It had a bit of grass in its beak. It tucked the grass in and flew off. It was a nest! The nest was jammed in the ring that lets the pole turn.

Priya did not want to hurt the birds. She went to tell her grandfather. He laughed. "A wren family has the best house in town," he said. "The vane can wait."

Weeks later, the wrens had all flown away. He cleaned the ring and oiled it. The rooster spun south, then east, then west. Priya cheered.

Questions

1. What was odd about the copper rooster?

_____

_____

2. What did Priya's grandfather say was wrong with the vane?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya go to look at the pole up close?

_____

_____

4. What was stuck in the ring?

_____

_____

5. Why did her grandfather say the vane could wait?

_____

_____

6. Why did Priya cheer at the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

weather vane: a pointer on a roof that turns to show the wind's direction
binoculars: two small telescopes joined to help you see far away
jammed: pushed tightly into a space so it cannot move
puzzles: problems or games that make you think

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 Copper Rooster Stuck on North

Triangle group

The copper rooster on top of the Hollis barn had not moved in a month. Every other weather vane in the village of Dunmore swung around when the wind changed. The rooster just pointed north, as if it were pouting.

Priya's grandfather ran the farm, and he said the vane was only rusty. "Leave it," he told her. But Priya liked puzzles, and a stuck rooster was a good one. On Saturday she climbed the ladder to the high window of the hay loft, where she could see the pole up close, and she borrowed her grandfather's binoculars.

Right away she noticed a wisp of straw poking out under the rooster. Then a small brown bird landed there, tucked in a bit of grass, and flew off again. It was a nest! The pole turned on a narrow metal ring, and the nest had jammed itself inside.

Priya did not want to hurt the little family, so she hurried down to explain. Her grandfather laughed. "A wren family has the best house in town," he said. "The vane can wait."

Weeks later, after the last wren had flown away, he cleaned out the ring and oiled it. The rooster spun south, then east, then west. Priya cheered. At long last, the wind had someone to tell.

Questions

1. What was strange about the copper rooster?

_____

_____

2. What did Priya's grandfather think was wrong with the vane?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya go to see the pole up close?

_____

_____

4. What did Priya find stuck in the metal ring?

_____

_____

5. Why did her grandfather decide to let the vane wait?

_____

_____

6. What does the last line mean when it says the wind had someone to tell?

_____

_____

Words to know

weather vane: a pointer on a roof that turns to show the wind's direction
pouting: looking upset and unhappy on purpose
binoculars: two small telescopes joined to help you see far away
jammed: pushed tightly into a space so it cannot move
puzzles: problems or games that make you think

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 Copper Rooster Stuck on North

Square group

For nearly a month, the copper rooster perched on top of the Hollis barn had refused to budge. Every other weather vane in the village of Dunmore swung around whenever the wind shifted, but the rooster simply pointed north, as though it were sulking.

Priya's grandfather, who ran the farm, insisted that the vane was merely rusty. "Leave it be," he told her. Priya, however, loved a good puzzle, and a stubborn rooster was an excellent one. On Saturday she scrambled up the ladder to the high window of the hay loft, where she could study the pole from close range, and she borrowed her grandfather's binoculars.

Almost at once she noticed a wisp of straw poking out beneath the rooster. Then a small brown bird fluttered down, tucked a strand of grass into the straw, and flew away again. It was a nest! The pole turned on a narrow metal ring, and the nest had wedged itself firmly inside.

Priya had no wish to harm the little family, so she hurried downstairs to explain. Her grandfather chuckled. "A wren family has the finest house in the whole county," he said. "The vane can wait."

Weeks later, after the last wren had flown off, he cleaned out the ring and oiled it carefully. The rooster whirled south, then east, then west, and Priya cheered. At long last, the wind had someone to tell.

Questions

1. What was unusual about the copper rooster on the Hollis barn?

_____

_____

2. What explanation did Priya's grandfather give for the stuck vane?

_____

_____

3. Where did Priya climb to study the pole from close range?

_____

_____

4. What had wedged itself inside the narrow metal ring?

_____

_____

5. Why did Priya's grandfather decide that the vane could wait?

_____

_____

6. What does the final sentence suggest about the rooster?

_____

_____

Words to know

weather vane: a pointer on a roof that turns to show the wind's direction

binoculars: two small telescopes joined to help you see far away

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 Copper Rooster Stuck on North

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

Circle: The Copper Rooster Stuck on North

Easier · 174 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.3

1. It would not move and always pointed north.
2. He said it was just rusty.
3. The high window in the hay loft.
4. A bird's nest.
5. A wren family lived in the nest, and he did not want to hurt them.
6. The rooster could finally turn and show where the wind was blowing from.

Triangle: The Copper Rooster Stuck on North

This passage · 216 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. It had not moved in a month and always pointed north.
2. He thought it was only rusty.
3. The high window of the hay loft.
4. A bird's nest.
5. A wren family was using the nest, and he did not want to hurt them.
6. The rooster could finally turn and show which way the wind was blowing.

Square: The Copper Rooster Stuck on North

Harder · 233 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.7

1. It had refused to move for nearly a month and always pointed north.
2. He insisted that it was merely rusty.
3. The high window of the hay loft.
4. A wren's nest.
5. A family of wrens was using the nest, and he did not want to harm them.
6. It could at last turn and show which way the wind was blowing.