Name: _____ Date: _____

Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

Circle group

Marcus helped his aunt clean the attic of the old Bellweather Inn. Under a pile of curtains he found a flat wooden box. Inside, in straw, were thin squares of glass. He held one up to the window. It showed a faded picture of a lighthouse.

"Magic lantern slides," said Aunt Dee. "Long ago, people shone a bright lamp through glass pictures to show them on a wall. There must be a projector, but I have never seen one." They looked until dinner. They found nothing.

Marcus kept thinking about the slides. Each one had a small number scratched in a corner. But the numbers were mixed up. The lighthouse was number nine. A rowboat was number two. A red door was number thirty.

Maybe the numbers were not a count. Maybe they were directions. That night he put the slides on the windowsill in number order. The first showed the harbor. Then came a boat, a stone path, and a staircase. The last showed a closet door with a brass handle.

"I know that door," Aunt Dee said in the morning. "It is in the old ballroom."

Behind it, under a dusty sheet, was the projector. That evening, the lighthouse glowed on the wall.

Questions

1. Where did Marcus find the wooden box?

_____

_____

2. What are magic lantern slides?

_____

_____

3. What was odd about the numbers on the slides?

_____

_____

4. What did Marcus do with the slides at night?

_____

_____

5. Why did Marcus think the numbers were directions?

_____

_____

6. What did the pictures lead Marcus to?

_____

_____

Words to know

attic: the room under the roof of a building
slides: small pictures on glass that can be shown on a wall
projector: a machine that shines a picture onto a wall
scratched: marked by rubbing something sharp on a surface
brass: a yellow metal often used for handles and bells

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: _____

Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

Triangle group

Marcus was helping his aunt clear the attic of the old Bellweather Inn when he found a flat wooden box under a pile of curtains. Inside, packed in straw, lay a stack of thin glass squares. He held one up to the window. It showed a faded picture of a lighthouse.

"Magic lantern slides," said Aunt Dee. "Long ago, people shone a bright lamp through glass pictures to show them on a wall. There should be a projector somewhere, but I have never seen one." They searched until dinner and found nothing.

Marcus kept thinking about the slides. Each one had a small number scratched into a corner, but the numbers were all mixed up. The lighthouse was number nine. A rowboat was number two. A red door was number thirty.

Maybe the numbers were not a count. Maybe they were directions. That night he lined the slides up along the windowsill in number order and let the moonlight shine through them. The first showed the harbor. The next showed a boat, then a stone path, then a staircase, and the last showed a closet door with a brass handle.

"I know that door," Aunt Dee said in the morning. "It is in the old ballroom."

Behind it, under a dusty sheet, stood the lantern projector. That evening, the lighthouse glowed on the wall.

Questions

1. Where did Marcus find the wooden box?

_____

_____

2. What are magic lantern slides?

_____

_____

3. What was odd about the numbers scratched on the slides?

_____

_____

4. What did Marcus do with the slides that night?

_____

_____

5. Why did Marcus think the numbers might be directions?

_____

_____

6. What did the slides turn out to be?

_____

_____

Words to know

attic: the room under the roof of a building
slides: small pictures on glass that can be shown on a wall
projector: a machine that shines a picture onto a wall
scratched: marked by rubbing something sharp on a surface
brass: a yellow metal often used for handles and bells

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: _____

Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

Square group

Marcus was helping his aunt empty the cluttered attic of the old Bellweather Inn when he discovered a flat wooden box beneath a heap of moth-eaten curtains. Packed in straw inside it lay a stack of thin glass squares. He held one up to the window, and a faded picture of a lighthouse appeared.

"Magic lantern slides," said Aunt Dee. "A century ago, people shone a bright lamp through glass pictures to display them on a wall. There ought to be a projector somewhere, but I have never laid eyes on one." They searched the whole house until dinnertime and found nothing at all.

Marcus could not stop thinking about the slides. Each one had a small number scratched into a corner, yet the numbers were hopelessly jumbled. The lighthouse was number nine. A rowboat was number two. A red door was number thirty.

Perhaps the numbers were not meant as a count. Perhaps they were directions. That night he arranged the slides along the windowsill in number order and let the moonlight glow through them. The first showed the harbor. The next showed a boat, then a stone path, then a staircase, and the very last showed a closet door with a brass handle.

"I know that door," Aunt Dee said the next morning. "It is in the old ballroom."

Behind it, beneath a dusty sheet, stood the lantern projector. That evening, the lighthouse glowed on the wall.

Questions

1. Where did Marcus discover the wooden box?

_____

_____

2. How did Aunt Dee describe what magic lantern slides were used for?

_____

_____

3. What puzzled Marcus about the numbers scratched on the slides?

_____

_____

4. What did Marcus do with the slides that night?

_____

_____

5. Why did Marcus suspect that the numbers were directions rather than a count?

_____

_____

6. What did the series of pictures turn out to be?

_____

_____

Words to know

attic: the room under the roof of a building
slides: small pictures on glass that can be shown on a wall
projector: a machine that shines a picture onto a wall
scratched: marked by rubbing something sharp on a surface
brass: a yellow metal often used for handles and bells

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: Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

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

Circle: Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

Easier · 205 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. Under a pile of curtains in the attic.
2. Glass pictures shown on a wall with a bright lamp.
3. They were mixed up, not in order.
4. He put them on the windowsill in number order.
5. A plain count would not be mixed up, so the numbers might show an order to follow.
6. The hidden projector.

Triangle: Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

This passage · 224 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.6

1. Under a pile of curtains in the attic.
2. Glass pictures that people showed on a wall by shining a bright lamp through them.
3. They were all mixed up and not in order.
4. He lined them up on the windowsill in number order.
5. A simple count would not be mixed up, so the numbers might give an order to follow.
6. A trail of pictures that led to the hidden projector.

Square: Glass Slides Numbered Out of Order

Harder · 240 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.7

1. Beneath a heap of curtains in the attic.
2. People shone a bright lamp through glass pictures to display them on a wall.
3. They were hopelessly jumbled and not in order.
4. He arranged them along the windowsill in number order.
5. A simple count would not be jumbled, so the numbers might give an order to follow.
6. A trail of clues that led to the hidden projector.