Name: _____ Date: _____

Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

Circle group

Long ago, there were no electric lights. City streets were dark at night. In the 1800s, many towns used gas lamps. A worker called a lamplighter lit them each evening.

At dusk, the lamplighter began a long walk. The lamplighter carried a tall pole with a small flame on the tip. At each lamp, a reach with the pole turned on the gas. The flame lit it. One by one, the lamps glowed, and gold light spread down the road.

At dawn, the lamplighter walked the route again to put the lamps out. Some lamplighters also cleaned the glass and fixed the lamps. This kept the light bright.

Lamps changed how people lived. Walking home at night felt safer. Shops stayed open later. Neighbors could visit outside in the evening. In time, electric bulbs took the place of gas lamps. The job of lamplighter faded away. A few old towns still have gas lamps.

Questions

1. What did a lamplighter do each evening?

_____

_____

2. What did the lamplighter carry?

_____

_____

3. When did the lamplighter put the lamps out?

_____

_____

4. What is one way lamps changed daily life?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why might a lamplighter clean the glass?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a worker who lit street lamps each evening
dusk: the time of day just after the sun goes down
route: the path someone follows from place to place
dawn: the time of day when the sun comes up
faded: slowly became weaker until it was gone

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: _____

Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

Triangle group

Before electric lights, city streets were dark after sunset. In the 1800s, many towns lit their streets with gas lamps, and a worker called a lamplighter made them glow each evening.

At dusk, the lamplighter began a long walk. Carrying a tall pole with a small flame at the tip, the lamplighter stopped at every lamp along the street. A reach with the pole turned on the gas, and the flame set it burning. One by one, the lamps lit up, and a trail of gold light spread down the road.

At dawn, the lamplighter walked the route again to put the lamps out. Some lamplighters also cleaned the glass and fixed the lamps so that the light stayed bright.

Lamps changed how people lived. Walking home after dark felt safer, and shops could stay open later. Neighbors could meet in the evening and visit outside. In time, electric bulbs took the place of gas lamps, and the lamplighter's job faded away. In a few old towns, a few gas lamps still glow today.

Questions

1. What did a lamplighter do each evening?

_____

_____

2. What did the lamplighter carry?

_____

_____

3. When did the lamplighter put the lamps out?

_____

_____

4. What is one way street lamps changed daily life?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why might a lamplighter clean the glass of a lamp?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a worker who lit street lamps each evening
dusk: the time of day just after the sun goes down
route: the path someone follows from place to place
dawn: the time of day when the sun comes up
faded: slowly became weaker until it was gone

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: _____

Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

Square group

Before the invention of electric lighting, city streets were dark after sunset. In the 1800s, many towns illuminated their streets with gas lamps, and a worker known as a lamplighter made them glow every evening.

At dusk, the lamplighter set out on a lengthy walk, carrying a tall pole with a small flame at its tip. At each lamp along the street, a quick reach with the pole turned on the gas, and the flame ignited it. One by one the lamps came to life, and a trail of golden light spread down the road.

At dawn, the lamplighter walked the same route again to extinguish the lamps. Some lamplighters also cleaned the glass and repaired the lamps so that the light remained bright.

Street lamps transformed the way people lived. Walking home after dark felt safer, and shops could remain open later into the evening. Neighbors could gather outdoors to visit with one another. In time, electric bulbs replaced gas lamps, and the lamplighter's job faded away, although a few gas lamps still glow in some old towns today.

Questions

1. What did a lamplighter do every evening?

_____

_____

2. What did the lamplighter carry on the evening walk?

_____

_____

3. When did the lamplighter extinguish the lamps?

_____

_____

4. What is one way street lamps transformed daily life?

_____

_____

5. Why did the lamplighter's job fade away?

_____

_____

6. Why might a lamplighter clean the glass of a lamp?

_____

_____

Words to know

lamplighter: a worker who lit street lamps each evening
dusk: the time of day just after the sun goes down
route: the path someone follows from place to place
dawn: the time of day when the sun comes up
faded: slowly became weaker until it was gone

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: Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

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

Circle: Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

Easier · 154 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.4

1. Walked down the street and lit each gas lamp with a pole.
2. A tall pole with a small flame on the tip.
3. At dawn, on a second walk.
4. Walking home felt safer, shops stayed open later, or neighbors visited outside.
5. Electric bulbs took the place of gas lamps.
6. Dirty glass would make the light dim.

Triangle: Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

This passage · 174 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.8

1. Walked down the street and lit every gas lamp with a pole.
2. A tall pole with a small flame at the tip.
3. At dawn, on a second walk along the route.
4. Walking home felt safer, shops stayed open later, or neighbors could meet outside.
5. Electric bulbs replaced the gas lamps.
6. Dirty glass would make the light dim.

Square: Lighting the Street Lamps at Dusk

Harder · 180 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.1

1. Walked along the street and lit each gas lamp with a pole.
2. A tall pole with a small flame at its tip.
3. At dawn, on a second walk along the same route.
4. Walking home felt safer, shops stayed open later, or neighbors gathered outdoors.
5. Electric bulbs replaced gas lamps.
6. Dirty glass would dim the light.