Name: _____ Date: _____

Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

Circle group

Pablo's family did not have a clothes dryer. On sunny days, the laundry hung on a long line behind the house. It was Pablo's chore to hang it up.

On Sunday morning, he carried out a basket of wet sheets, towels, and socks. The sky was blue and the breeze was soft. Pablo whistled as he worked. He pinned each towel by two corners. He clipped the socks in pairs so none would get lost.

Halfway through the basket, he saw that the wind had changed. It turned cold and tugged the sheets sideways. Far off, a gray cloud slid over the hills like a lid on a pot.

Pablo worked faster, but faster made him sloppy. A pillowcase fell in the dirt. Two socks slipped out of their clips. A sheet puffed up like a sail and nearly pulled down the whole line.

Then he remembered what his grandmother said. "Hang the heavy things in the middle, where the line is strongest. Put two pins together where one sheet meets the next."

He fixed the flapping sheet. He rinsed the pillowcase in the bucket. He clipped everything in the right place. This time it held.

When the first fat raindrop hit the fence, Pablo was inside, watching from the window. The laundry swayed, almost dry. A few minutes of rain would only make it smell fresh.

Questions

1. Whose chore was it to hang the laundry?

_____

_____

2. How did Pablo hang the socks so none would be lost?

_____

_____

3. What changed halfway through the basket?

_____

_____

4. What went wrong when Pablo worked faster?

_____

_____

5. Why did the sheet nearly pull down the line?

_____

_____

6. Why did his grandmother's advice help Pablo in the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

chore: a small job that has to be done regularly
breeze: a light, gentle wind
sloppy: careless and messy
sail: a big piece of cloth that catches the wind on a boat
swayed: moved gently back and forth

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: _____

Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

Triangle group

Pablo's family did not own a clothes dryer. On sunny days, laundry hung on a long line behind the house, and it was Pablo's chore to hang it up.

On Sunday morning, he carried out a basket of wet sheets, towels, and socks. The sky was blue and the breeze was gentle. Pablo whistled while he worked. He pinned each towel by two corners and clipped the socks in pairs, so that none would be lost.

Halfway through the basket, he noticed that the wind had changed. It turned colder and began to tug the sheets sideways. In the distance, a gray cloud was sliding over the hills like a lid over a pot.

Pablo worked faster, but faster made him sloppy. A pillowcase fell into the dirt. Two socks slipped from their clips. The sheet puffed up like a sail and nearly pulled the whole line down.

Then he remembered what his grandmother had said. "Hang the heavy things in the middle, where the line is strongest, and put two pins together where one sheet meets the next."

He fixed the sheet that was flapping, rinsed the pillowcase in the bucket, and clipped everything in the right place. This time it held.

By the time the first fat raindrop splashed on the fence, Pablo was inside, watching through the window. The laundry swayed, nearly dry, and a few minutes of rain would only make it smell fresh.

Questions

1. Whose chore was it to hang the laundry?

_____

_____

2. How did Pablo hang the socks so none would be lost?

_____

_____

3. What changed halfway through the basket?

_____

_____

4. What went wrong when Pablo worked faster?

_____

_____

5. Why did the sheet nearly pull the line down?

_____

_____

6. Why did Pablo's grandmother's advice help him in the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

chore: a small job that has to be done regularly
breeze: a light, gentle wind
sloppy: careless and messy
sail: a big piece of cloth that catches the wind on a boat
swayed: moved gently back and forth

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: _____

Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

Square group

Pablo's family did not own a clothes dryer, so on sunny days the laundry hung from a long line behind the house, and it was Pablo's chore to hang it all up.

On Sunday morning, he carried out a basket of wet sheets, towels, and socks. The sky was bright blue and the breeze was gentle, so Pablo whistled cheerfully while he worked. He pinned each towel by two corners and clipped the socks in pairs, so that none of them would go missing.

Halfway through the basket, he noticed that the wind had shifted. It turned colder and began to tug the sheets sideways. In the distance, a gray cloud was sliding over the hills like a lid settling onto a pot.

Pablo hurried, but hurrying made him sloppy. A pillowcase tumbled into the dirt. Two socks slipped from their clips. A sheet billowed out like a sail and nearly dragged the entire line to the ground.

Then he recalled what his grandmother had told him. "Hang the heavy things in the middle, where the line is strongest, and put two pins together wherever one sheet meets the next."

He fixed the flapping sheet, rinsed the pillowcase in the bucket, and clipped everything exactly where it belonged. This time it held firm.

By the time the first fat raindrop splashed on the fence, Pablo was indoors, watching through the window. The laundry swayed, nearly dry, and a few minutes of rain would only make it smell fresh.

Questions

1. Whose chore was it to hang the laundry?

_____

_____

2. How did Pablo hang the socks so that none would go missing?

_____

_____

3. What changed halfway through the basket?

_____

_____

4. What went wrong when Pablo hurried?

_____

_____

5. Why did the sheet nearly drag the entire line down?

_____

_____

6. Why did his grandmother's advice help Pablo in the end?

_____

_____

Words to know

chore: a small job that has to be done regularly
breeze: a light, gentle wind
sloppy: careless and messy
sail: a big piece of cloth that catches the wind on a boat
swayed: moved gently back and forth

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: Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

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

Circle: Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

Easier · 227 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. Pablo's.
2. He clipped them in pairs.
3. The wind turned cold and a gray cloud came in.
4. He got sloppy, and a pillowcase and socks fell.
5. The wind made it puff up like a sail.
6. Heavy things in the middle and double pins made the line hold.

Triangle: Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

This passage · 238 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.2

1. Pablo's.
2. He clipped them in pairs.
3. The wind got colder and a gray cloud began moving in.
4. He got sloppy, and a pillowcase and socks fell down.
5. The wind made it puff up like a sail.
6. Hanging the heavy things in the middle and double pinning made the line hold.

Square: Pablo Races the Clouds with a Clothesline

Harder · 248 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. Pablo's.
2. He clipped them in pairs.
3. The wind shifted, turned colder, and a gray cloud moved in.
4. He got sloppy, and a pillowcase and two socks fell.
5. The wind made it billow out like a sail.
6. Hanging heavy things in the middle and doubling the pins made the line hold.