Name: _____ Date: _____

The Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

Circle group

Grandpa Ode owned a blue teapot that never held tea. When Ines lifted the lid, she saw a tiny sea inside. Gray waves rolled from wall to wall. In the middle, a lighthouse no taller than a pencil stood on a rock.

"Keep it level," Grandpa said. "If you tip it too far, the tide will spill."

Ines set the teapot on the kitchen table and watched. Every hour the water rose a little, then sank again, just like a real tide. A toy-sized boat bobbed near the rock. Its sail was no bigger than a grain of rice.

Then the rain began. It poured for three days, and the kitchen grew dim. Inside the teapot, the lighthouse lamp flickered and went out. The little boat spun in circles, lost in the dark.

"The lamp feeds on daylight," Grandpa said sadly. "With these clouds, there is none."

Ines thought hard. Then she ran to get her bike light. She held it over the spout and switched it on. A white beam slid down into the teapot, and the lighthouse glowed gold. Slowly the boat turned toward the rock and slipped into a cove behind it.

"Well done," said Grandpa. "Tonight, you are the keeper."

Questions

1. What was unusual about Grandpa Ode's blue teapot?

_____

_____

2. What did the water in the teapot do every hour?

_____

_____

3. Why did the lighthouse lamp go out?

_____

_____

4. What did Ines use to fix the problem?

_____

_____

5. Why did the little boat turn toward the rock at the end?

_____

_____

6. Why does Grandpa call Ines the keeper?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
tide: the slow rising and falling of the sea
flickered: shone with a light that wavered on and off
spout: the narrow part of a teapot that you pour from
keeper: a person who looks after something

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 Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

Triangle group

Grandpa Ode owned an enormous blue teapot that had never held a single drop of tea. When Ines carefully lifted the lid, she discovered a miniature sea rippling inside. Gray waves rolled from wall to wall, and in the middle, a lighthouse no taller than a pencil stood on a jagged rock.

"Keep it perfectly level," Grandpa warned. "If you tip it too far, the whole tide will spill across the table."

Ines set the teapot down on the kitchen table and watched it patiently. Every hour the water climbed a little higher and then sank back again, exactly like a real tide. A toy-sized boat bobbed near the rock, and its sail was no bigger than a grain of rice.

Then the rain began, and it poured for three straight days until the kitchen grew gloomy. Inside the teapot, the lighthouse lamp flickered weakly and went dark. The little boat spun in helpless circles, lost in the blackness.

"That lamp feeds on daylight," Grandpa said sadly. "With clouds like these, there is none to be found."

Ines thought hard, and then she dashed off to fetch her bike light. She held it over the spout and switched it on, and a white beam slid down into the teapot. The lighthouse glowed gold, and slowly the boat turned toward the rock and slipped into a sheltered cove behind it.

"Well done," said Grandpa proudly. "Tonight, you are the keeper."

Questions

1. What was unusual about the teapot that Grandpa Ode owned?

_____

_____

2. What did the water in the teapot do every hour?

_____

_____

3. Why did the lighthouse lamp go dark?

_____

_____

4. What did Ines fetch to solve the problem?

_____

_____

5. Why did the little boat turn toward the rock at the end?

_____

_____

6. Why does Grandpa proudly call Ines the keeper?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
tide: the slow rising and falling of the sea
flickered: shone with a light that wavered on and off
spout: the narrow part of a teapot that you pour from
keeper: a person who looks after something

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 Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

Square group

Grandpa Ode owned an extraordinary blue teapot that had never held a single drop of tea. When Ines cautiously lifted the lid, she discovered a miniature sea rippling inside, with gray waves rolling from one porcelain wall to the other. In the very middle, a lighthouse no taller than a pencil stood upon a jagged rock.

"Keep it perfectly level," Grandpa warned her. "If you tip it too far, the entire tide will spill across the kitchen table."

Ines set the teapot down and observed it patiently. Every hour the water climbed a little higher and then retreated, exactly as a genuine tide would do. A toy-sized boat bobbed near the rock, and its sail was no larger than a grain of rice.

Then the rain arrived, and it continued for three straight days until the whole kitchen was gloomy. Inside the teapot, the lighthouse lamp flickered weakly before it vanished into darkness, and the little boat spun in helpless circles, completely lost.

"That lamp feeds on daylight," Grandpa said sadly. "Beneath clouds like these, there is none to be found."

Ines considered the problem carefully, and then she dashed off to fetch her bicycle light. She held it above the spout and switched it on, so that a brilliant white beam slid down into the teapot. The lighthouse glowed gold, and slowly the boat turned toward the rock and slipped into a sheltered cove behind it.

"Well done," Grandpa said proudly. "Tonight, you are the keeper."

Questions

1. What was unusual about the teapot that Grandpa Ode owned?

_____

_____

2. What did the water in the teapot do every hour?

_____

_____

3. Why did the lighthouse lamp go dark?

_____

_____

4. What did Ines fetch to solve the problem?

_____

_____

5. Why did the little boat turn toward the rock at the end?

_____

_____

6. Why does Grandpa proudly call Ines the keeper?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
tide: the slow rising and falling of the sea
flickered: shone with a light that wavered on and off
spout: the narrow part of a teapot that you pour from
keeper: a person who looks after something

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 Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

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

Circle: The Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

Easier · 205 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. It held a tiny sea instead of tea.
2. It rose a little and then sank, like a real tide.
3. The rain clouds blocked the daylight that the lamp feeds on.
4. Her bike light.
5. The lighthouse was glowing again, so the boat could see where to go.
6. She took care of the lighthouse and saved the boat.

Triangle: The Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

This passage · 240 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.9

1. It held a miniature sea instead of tea.
2. It climbed higher and then sank back, like a real tide.
3. Rain clouds blocked the daylight that the lamp feeds on.
4. Her bike light.
5. The lighthouse was glowing again, which showed the boat where to go.
6. She looked after the lighthouse and rescued the boat.

Square: The Lighthouse Inside Grandpa's Teapot

Harder · 248 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.7

1. It held a miniature sea instead of tea.
2. It climbed higher and then sank back, like a real tide.
3. Rain clouds blocked the daylight that the lamp feeds on.
4. Her bike light.
5. The lighthouse was glowing again, which showed the boat where to go.
6. She looked after the lighthouse and rescued the boat.