Name: _____ Date: _____

Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

Circle group

Zeb Tuttle lived on a very windy farm. The hens laid their eggs sideways. One morning Zeb went into the barn. He smelled pepper that Grandma had spilled. His nose twitched. His eyes got wet. His chest puffed up like a balloon.

"Ah," said Zeb. "Ah... ah..."

His sister Mabel hid behind a hay bale. She knew what would come next. The last time Zeb sneezed, the neighbor's hat flew away.

"AH-CHOOOO!"

The sneeze shook every window in the county. It blew the laundry off Grandma's line. It flew over the hills. Long underwear landed on the steeple in town. Three socks fell in the pond, and the frogs wore them. The scarecrow spun so fast that he got dizzy and sat down.

Grandma looked at the empty line. "Well," she said, "the sheets got a ride."

Zeb felt bad. He made a plan. He sewed a giant sack and hung it by the barn door. When a sneeze came, he sneezed into the sack. By fall, the sack was so full of wind that it pushed a boat across the pond. Grandma's wash dried fast. Now the neighbors line up to borrow his sneezes.

Questions

1. What did Zeb smell in the barn?

_____

_____

2. What happened to the laundry when Zeb sneezed?

_____

_____

3. Where did the long underwear land?

_____

_____

4. Why did Mabel hide behind a hay bale?

_____

_____

5. How did Zeb fix his problem?

_____

_____

6. Why is the end of the story funny?

_____

_____

Words to know

twitched: moved with a quick little jerk
steeple: a tall pointed tower on top of a building
scarecrow: a dressed-up figure that keeps birds off crops
dizzy: feeling like the world is spinning
borrow: to use something for a while and give it back

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: _____

Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

Triangle group

Zeb Tuttle lived on a farm so windy that the chickens laid their eggs sideways. One spring morning he walked into the barn and sniffed a pinch of pepper that Grandma had spilled. His nose twitched. His eyes watered. His chest swelled up like a balloon at the fair.

"Ah," said Zeb. "Ah... ah..."

His sister Mabel dove behind a hay bale, because she knew exactly what was coming. The last time Zeb sneezed, the neighbor's hat flew off his head and was never seen again.

"AH-CHOOOO!"

The sneeze rattled every window in the county and blew the laundry off Grandma's clothesline, sending it sailing over the distant hills. A pair of long underwear landed on top of the steeple in town, and three socks fell into the pond, where the frogs wore them for a week. The scarecrow spun around so fast that he grew dizzy and had to sit down.

When the wind calmed, the family stared at the empty clothesline. "Well," said Grandma, "at least the sheets got a ride."

Zeb felt terrible, so he thought of a clever plan. He sewed a giant sack and hung it beside the barn door, and whenever he felt a sneeze coming, he hurried over and sneezed right into the sack. By autumn the sack was so full of wind that Zeb used it to push a little boat across the pond. Grandma's wash now dried in two minutes flat, and the neighbors lined up to borrow his sneezes on washing day.

Questions

1. What did Zeb smell in the barn that made him sneeze?

_____

_____

2. What happened to the laundry when Zeb sneezed?

_____

_____

3. Where did the long underwear land?

_____

_____

4. Why did Mabel dive behind a hay bale?

_____

_____

5. How did Zeb fix his sneezing problem?

_____

_____

6. Why is the ending of the story funny?

_____

_____

Words to know

twitched: moved with a quick little jerk
steeple: a tall pointed tower on top of a building
scarecrow: a dressed-up figure that keeps birds off crops
dizzy: feeling like the world is spinning
borrow: to use something for a while and give it back

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: _____

Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

Square group

Zeb Tuttle lived on a farm so relentlessly windy that the chickens laid their eggs sideways. One spring morning he wandered into the barn and sniffed a pinch of pepper that Grandma had carelessly spilled. His nose twitched, his eyes watered, and his chest swelled up like a balloon at the county fair.

"Ah," said Zeb. "Ah... ah..."

His sister Mabel dove behind a hay bale, because she knew exactly what was coming. The last time Zeb had sneezed, the neighbor's hat had flown off his head and had never been seen again.

"AH-CHOOOO!"

The sneeze rattled every window in the county. It tore the laundry from Grandma's clothesline and sent it sailing over the distant hills. A pair of long underwear landed on top of the steeple in town, and three socks plunked into the pond, where the frogs wore them for a week. The scarecrow spun around so quickly that he grew dizzy and had to sit down in the dirt.

When the wind finally calmed, the family stared at the empty clothesline. "Well," said Grandma, "at least the sheets got a ride."

Zeb felt terrible, so he came up with a clever plan. He sewed an enormous sack and hung it beside the barn door, and whenever he felt a sneeze approaching, he hurried over and sneezed right into it. By autumn the sack held so much wind that Zeb used it to push a little boat across the pond. Grandma's wash now dried in two minutes flat, and the neighbors lined up on washing day to borrow his sneezes.

Questions

1. What did Zeb smell in the barn that set off his sneeze?

_____

_____

2. What happened to Grandma's laundry when Zeb sneezed?

_____

_____

3. Where did the pair of long underwear end up?

_____

_____

4. Why did Mabel dive behind a hay bale before the sneeze?

_____

_____

5. How did Zeb solve his sneezing problem?

_____

_____

6. What makes the ending of the story humorous?

_____

_____

Words to know

twitched: moved with a quick little jerk
steeple: a tall pointed tower on top of a building
scarecrow: a dressed-up figure that keeps birds off crops
dizzy: feeling like the world is spinning
borrow: to use something for a while and give it back

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: Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

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

Circle: Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

Easier · 196 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.3

1. Pepper that Grandma had spilled.
2. It blew off the line and went over the hills.
3. On the steeple in town.
4. She knew how strong his sneeze would be.
5. He sneezed into a giant sack.
6. The neighbors want to borrow his sneezes.

Triangle: Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

This passage · 253 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.6

1. A pinch of pepper that Grandma had spilled.
2. It blew off the clothesline and sailed over the hills.
3. On top of the steeple in town.
4. She remembered how strong Zeb's last sneeze was and knew another was coming.
5. He sneezed into a giant sack that held the wind.
6. The sneezes became so useful that neighbors lined up to borrow them.

Square: Zeb Tuttle and the Thirty-Mile Sneeze

Harder · 264 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.6

1. A pinch of pepper that Grandma had carelessly spilled.
2. It was torn from the clothesline and sailed over the hills.
3. On top of the steeple in town.
4. She remembered the damage of Zeb's last sneeze and knew another was coming.
5. He sneezed into an enormous sack that held the wind.
6. A problem became so useful that neighbors lined up to borrow his sneezes.