Name: _____ Date: _____

Grandma's Soup Card

Circle group

Every winter, Dev's grandmother made lentil soup. The whole house smelled of cumin and warm bread. This year she had a sore knee. She asked Dev to cook the soup for dinner. "The recipe is on my card in the kitchen drawer," she said. "You will do fine."

Dev found the card and groaned. Water had spilled on it long ago. The ink had run into blue smudges. He could read "lentils" and "onion." The amounts were gone. The last line said only "add the secret last."

Dev looked at the clock. Dinner was in two hours. He took a deep breath. Panic would not help. He called his aunt. She remembered two carrots and one big onion. His little brother had watched Grandma every year. He remembered she crushed the garlic with the flat of a knife. His dad remembered the bay leaf.

Dev simmered the lentils. He tasted the soup after each step. It was bland, so he added salt a pinch at a time. It still tasted flat. So he squeezed in some lemon juice. The flavors woke up. "That must be the secret," he whispered.

At dinner, Grandma took one spoonful and smiled. "That is the secret," she said. After dessert, Dev copied the recipe onto a new card. Grandma put it in a plastic sleeve. Now it would never be smudged again.

Questions

1. Why did Dev cook the soup this year?

_____

_____

2. What was wrong with the recipe card?

_____

_____

3. What did Dev's aunt remember?

_____

_____

4. What was the secret ingredient Dev found?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandma put the new card in a plastic sleeve?

_____

_____

Words to know

lentil: a small round seed cooked as food
cumin: a spice with a warm, earthy smell
smudges: dirty or blurred marks
bland: having very little flavor

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: _____

Grandma's Soup Card

Triangle group

Every winter, Dev's grandmother made lentil soup, and every winter the whole house smelled of cumin and warm bread. This year she had a sore knee, so she asked Dev to cook it for the family dinner. "The recipe is on my card in the kitchen drawer," she told him, "and I am sure you will manage."

Dev found the card and groaned. Someone had spilled water on it long ago, and the ink had run into blue smudges. He could still read the words "lentils" and "onion," but the amounts had disappeared completely, and the last line said only "add the secret last."

He glanced at the clock, since dinner was only two hours away. Dev took a deep breath and decided that panicking would not help. He called his aunt, who remembered that Grandma used two carrots and one big onion. His little brother, who had watched her every year, remembered that she crushed the garlic with the flat of a knife, and his dad remembered the bay leaf.

Dev began simmering the lentils and tasted the soup after each step. It was too bland, so he added salt a pinch at a time. It still tasted flat, so he squeezed in some lemon juice, and suddenly the flavors woke up. "That must be the secret," he whispered.

At dinner, Grandma took one spoonful and smiled. "That is the secret," she said. After dessert, Dev copied the recipe onto a fresh card, and Grandma slipped it into a plastic sleeve so it would never be smudged again.

Questions

1. Why did Dev cook the soup this year?

_____

_____

2. What was wrong with the recipe card?

_____

_____

3. What did Dev's aunt remember about the recipe?

_____

_____

4. What was the secret ingredient Dev discovered?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandma put the new card in a plastic sleeve?

_____

_____

Words to know

lentil: a small round seed cooked as food
cumin: a spice with a warm, earthy smell
smudges: dirty or blurred marks
simmering: cooking gently just below boiling
bland: having very little flavor

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: _____

Grandma's Soup Card

Square group

Every winter, Dev's grandmother prepared her famous lentil soup, and every winter the entire house filled with the comforting smell of cumin and warm bread. This year, however, she had a sore knee, so she asked Dev to cook the soup for the family dinner. "The recipe is on my card in the kitchen drawer," she told him, "and I am confident that you will manage beautifully."

Dev found the card and groaned out loud. Someone had spilled water on it years earlier, and the ink had dissolved into blurry blue smudges. He could still make out the words "lentils" and "onion," but the amounts had vanished completely, and the final line said only "add the secret last."

He glanced anxiously at the clock, since dinner was only two hours away. Dev took a deep breath and decided that panicking would accomplish nothing. He telephoned his aunt, who remembered that Grandma always used two carrots and one big onion. His little brother, who had faithfully watched her cook every year, remembered that she crushed the garlic with the flat side of a knife, and his dad remembered the bay leaf.

Dev began simmering the lentils and tasted the soup after every step. It seemed too bland, so he added salt a pinch at a time. It still tasted flat, so he squeezed in some fresh lemon juice, and suddenly the flavors woke up. "That must be the secret," he whispered.

At dinner, Grandma took a single spoonful and smiled warmly. "That is the secret," she said. After dessert, Dev copied the recipe onto a fresh card, and Grandma slipped it into a plastic sleeve so that it would never be smudged again.

Questions

1. Why did Dev's grandmother ask him to cook the soup this year?

_____

_____

2. What had happened to the recipe card?

_____

_____

3. What did Dev's aunt remember about Grandma's recipe?

_____

_____

4. What was the secret ingredient that Dev discovered?

_____

_____

5. Why did Grandma slip the new recipe card into a plastic sleeve?

_____

_____

Words to know

lentil: a small round seed cooked as food
cumin: a spice with a warm, earthy smell
smudges: dirty or blurred marks
simmering: cooking gently just below boiling
bland: having very little flavor

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: Grandma's Soup Card

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

Circle: Grandma's Soup Card

Easier · 227 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. His grandmother had a sore knee.
2. Water had smudged the ink, and the amounts were gone.
3. Grandma used two carrots and one big onion.
4. Lemon juice.
5. To protect it from spills so it would never be smudged again.

Triangle: Grandma's Soup Card

This passage · 259 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6

1. His grandmother had a sore knee.
2. Water had smudged the ink, so the amounts could not be read.
3. Grandma used two carrots and one big onion.
4. Lemon juice.
5. To protect it from spills so it would never be smudged again.

Square: Grandma's Soup Card

Harder · 282 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.4

1. She had a sore knee.
2. Water had spilled on it long ago, smudging the ink so the amounts could not be read.
3. She always used two carrots and one big onion.
4. Lemon juice.
5. To protect it from spills so that it would never be smudged again.