Name: _____ Date: _____

The Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

Circle group

A young gull named Skerry lived near an old lighthouse. On foggy mornings, the lighthouse horn gave a deep groan. It warned the fishing boats. Skerry loved the sound. She practiced until she could copy it.

She liked to show off. When fog came, she sat on the roof and groaned with the horn. The other gulls laughed and clapped. The keeper just smiled.

One afternoon, the horn stopped. Fog covered the water. The boats were still far out. The keeper tried every switch, but the horn stayed silent.

Skerry saw how worried he was. She flew to the railing and sounded her foghorn call. It was thinner than the horn, but it carried over the waves. She called all evening. One by one, the boats came home.

The next day, the keeper fixed the horn. He left fresh sardines on the roof. Skerry learned that a talent for fun can be a gift when someone needs it.

Questions

1. What did the lighthouse horn do on foggy mornings?

_____

_____

2. How did the other gulls react when Skerry copied the horn?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong one afternoon?

_____

_____

4. How did Skerry help the boats?

_____

_____

5. Why was Skerry's call thinner than the horn but still useful?

_____

_____

6. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
keeper: a person who looks after a place
railing: a bar along the edge of a high place
talent: a natural skill that you do well

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 Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

Triangle group

On a rocky point where the sea met the sky, a young gull named Skerry lived near an old lighthouse. Every foggy morning, the lighthouse horn gave a deep, slow groan to warn the fishing boats. Skerry thought it was the grandest sound in the world, and she practiced it until she could copy it perfectly.

Soon she could not resist showing off. Whenever the fog rolled in, Skerry sat on the roof and groaned along with the horn. The other gulls laughed and clapped their wings. The keeper only shook his head and smiled.

One afternoon, the horn stopped working. A gray wall of fog slid across the water, and the boats were still far out. The keeper climbed the stairs and tried every switch, but the machine stayed silent.

Skerry saw the worried look on his face. She flew to the railing, took a deep breath, and sounded her best foghorn call. It was thinner than the real one, yet it carried over the waves. She called all evening until her throat was sore, and one by one the boats crept home along the sound.

The next day, the keeper fixed the horn and left a pile of fresh sardines on the roof. Skerry ate them proudly. She had learned that a talent for fun can also become a gift, if you are willing to use it when someone truly needs it.

Questions

1. What did the lighthouse horn do on foggy mornings?

_____

_____

2. How did the other gulls react when Skerry copied the horn?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong one afternoon?

_____

_____

4. How did Skerry help the boats?

_____

_____

5. Why was Skerry's call thinner than the real horn yet still useful?

_____

_____

6. What lesson does the story teach?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
resist: to hold yourself back from doing something
keeper: a person who looks after a place
railing: a bar along the edge of a high place
talent: a natural skill that you do well

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 Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

Square group

On a windswept rocky point where the sea met the sky, a young gull named Skerry made her home near an ancient lighthouse. Every foggy morning, the lighthouse horn released a deep, slow groan intended to warn the fishing boats. Skerry considered it the grandest sound in the world, and she practiced relentlessly until she could reproduce it perfectly.

Before long, she could not resist showing off her talent. Whenever the fog rolled in, Skerry perched on the roof and groaned in unison with the horn. The other gulls laughed and applauded with their wings, while the keeper merely shook his head and smiled.

One afternoon, however, the horn fell silent. A gray wall of fog slid across the water, and the boats were still far from shore. The keeper hurried up the winding stairs and tried every switch, but the machine refused to respond.

Skerry noticed the worried look on his face. She flew to the railing, drew a deep breath, and sounded her best foghorn call. It was thinner than the real one, yet it carried remarkably well across the waves. She kept calling throughout the evening until her throat ached, and one by one the boats crept home, guided by her voice.

The following day, the keeper repaired the horn and left a generous pile of fresh sardines on the roof. Skerry ate them proudly. She had discovered that a talent meant for amusement can also become a precious gift, provided you are willing to use it when someone truly needs it.

Questions

1. What was the lighthouse horn meant to do on foggy mornings?

_____

_____

2. How did the other gulls respond when Skerry copied the horn?

_____

_____

3. What went wrong one afternoon while the boats were still far from shore?

_____

_____

4. How did Skerry help the boats find their way?

_____

_____

5. Why was Skerry's call thinner than the real horn yet still effective?

_____

_____

6. What lesson does the story teach about talents?

_____

_____

Words to know

lighthouse: a tall tower with a bright light that guides ships
resist: to hold yourself back from doing something
keeper: a person who looks after a place
railing: a bar along the edge of a high place
talent: a natural skill that you do well

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 Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

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

Circle: The Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

Easier · 158 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. It gave a deep groan to warn the boats.
2. They laughed and clapped.
3. The horn stopped working while the boats were far out.
4. She sounded her foghorn call all evening so the boats could come home.
5. It was not as loud, but it still carried over the waves to the boats.
6. A talent used for fun can be a gift when someone needs it.

Triangle: The Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

This passage · 234 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.6

1. It gave a deep, slow groan to warn the fishing boats.
2. They laughed and clapped their wings.
3. The horn stopped working while the boats were still far out.
4. She sounded her foghorn call all evening so the boats could find their way home.
5. It was not as loud or deep, but it still carried across the water far enough to guide the boats.
6. A talent used for fun can become a gift when someone needs it.

Square: The Gull Who Copied the Foghorn

Harder · 255 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.1

1. It released a deep, slow groan to warn the fishing boats.
2. They laughed and applauded with their wings.
3. The horn fell silent and the keeper could not make it work.
4. She sounded her foghorn call throughout the evening and guided them home.
5. It was not as deep or loud, but it carried far enough across the waves to guide the boats.
6. A talent meant for amusement can become a precious gift when someone truly needs it.