Name: _____ Date: _____

The Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

Circle group

In the village of Thistledown, Tuesday ended and Thursday began. Wednesday did not come. At first no one noticed. The sun still rose. The roosters still crowed. But the bakers ran out of bread, since Wednesday was baking day. The school bell stayed silent. The library doors stayed shut.

Tamsin was twelve. She wanted to find out where Wednesday went. She asked the old clockmaker. He sniffed and said, "Days have feelings. Wednesday is stuck in the middle. Nobody ever has a party for it."

That night Tamsin looked all over the village. She found a small gray shimmer in the cold bakery oven. It looked like a day that was worn out. "Everyone loves the start of the week and the end," whispered Wednesday. "I am just the part in between."

Tamsin thought hard. The next morning she hung a banner across the square. It said MIDDLE DAY MARKET. The baker brought warm loaves. The farmers brought apples. The children played music on pots and spoons. All day the villagers cheered for the middle of the week.

At sunset the gray shimmer in the oven glowed bright gold. The next week Wednesday came right on time. Thistledown has held a market on that day ever since.

Questions

1. What happened in Thistledown each week?

_____

_____

2. Which places stopped working without Wednesday?

_____

_____

3. Where did Tamsin find Wednesday?

_____

_____

4. What did Tamsin hang across the square?

_____

_____

5. Why did Wednesday run away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the gray shimmer turn gold?

_____

_____

Words to know

shimmer: a soft, shaky glow of light
clockmaker: a person who builds and repairs clocks
banner: a long sign hung up for everyone to see
village: a very small town
worn: tired out from use

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 Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

Triangle group

In the village of Thistledown, Tuesday ended and Thursday began. Wednesday simply did not come. People did not notice at first, because the sun still rose and the roosters still crowed. But the bakers ran out of bread, since Wednesday was the day they baked. The school bell stayed silent, and the library doors stayed shut.

Tamsin, who was twelve, decided to find out where Wednesday had gone. She asked the old clockmaker, who sniffed and said, "Days have feelings, you know. Wednesday is stuck in the middle, and nobody ever throws a party for it."

That night Tamsin searched the village and found a small, gray shimmer curled up inside the cold bakery oven. It looked like a day that had worn itself out. "Everybody loves the start of the week and the end of the week," whispered Wednesday. "I am just the part in between."

Tamsin thought hard. The next morning she hung a banner across the square that said MIDDLE DAY MARKET. The baker brought warm loaves, the farmers brought apples, and the children played music on pots and spoons. All day long the villagers cheered for the middle of the week.

When the sun set, the gray shimmer in the oven glowed a bright, buttery gold. The following week Wednesday arrived right on time, and Thistledown has held a market on that day ever since.

Questions

1. What happened in Thistledown each week?

_____

_____

2. Which two places stopped working because Wednesday was missing?

_____

_____

3. Where did Tamsin find Wednesday?

_____

_____

4. What did Tamsin hang across the square?

_____

_____

5. Why had Wednesday run away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the gray shimmer turn golden at sunset?

_____

_____

Words to know

shimmer: a soft, shaky glow of light
clockmaker: a person who builds and repairs clocks
banner: a long sign hung up for everyone to see
village: a very small town
worn: tired out from use

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 Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

Square group

In the village of Thistledown, Tuesday would end and Thursday would simply begin, because Wednesday never arrived. The villagers did not notice at first, since the sun still rose and the roosters still crowed. But the bakers soon ran out of bread, since Wednesday was the day they did their baking. The school bell remained silent, and the library doors stayed firmly shut.

Tamsin, who was twelve, resolved to find out where Wednesday had gone. She questioned the old clockmaker, who sniffed and explained, "Days have feelings, you know. Wednesday is stuck in the middle of the week, and nobody ever throws a party for it."

That night Tamsin searched every corner of the village and discovered a small, gray shimmer curled up inside the cold bakery oven. It looked like a day that had worn itself out. "Everybody adores the beginning of the week and the end of the week," whispered Wednesday. "I am merely the part in between."

Tamsin thought long and hard. The next morning she hung an enormous banner across the square that read MIDDLE DAY MARKET. The baker arrived with warm loaves, the farmers brought baskets of apples, and the children played cheerful music on pots and spoons. All day long the villagers celebrated the middle of the week.

When the sun set, the gray shimmer in the oven glowed a bright, buttery gold. The following week Wednesday arrived right on schedule, and Thistledown has held a market on that day ever since.

Questions

1. What happened in Thistledown every week?

_____

_____

2. Which places stopped working because Wednesday was missing?

_____

_____

3. Where did Tamsin discover Wednesday?

_____

_____

4. What did Tamsin hang across the square?

_____

_____

5. Why had Wednesday run away?

_____

_____

6. Why did the gray shimmer glow gold at sunset?

_____

_____

Words to know

shimmer: a soft, shaky glow of light
clockmaker: a person who builds and repairs clocks
banner: a long sign hung up for everyone to see
village: a very small town
worn: tired out from use

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 Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

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

Circle: The Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

Easier · 207 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.9

1. Tuesday ended and Thursday began, so Wednesday never came.
2. The bakery and the school or library.
3. In the cold bakery oven.
4. A banner that said MIDDLE DAY MARKET.
5. It felt unimportant because it was stuck in the middle and nobody celebrated it.
6. Wednesday felt happy and valued after the villagers cheered for it.

Triangle: The Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

This passage · 229 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. Tuesday ended and Thursday began, so Wednesday never came.
2. The bakery and the school or library.
3. Curled up inside the cold bakery oven.
4. A banner that said MIDDLE DAY MARKET.
5. It felt unimportant because it was stuck in the middle and nobody celebrated it.
6. Wednesday felt happy and valued after the villagers celebrated it.

Square: The Village That Lost Its Wednesdays

Harder · 248 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.9

1. Tuesday ended and Thursday began because Wednesday never arrived.
2. The bakery and the school or library.
3. Curled up inside the cold bakery oven.
4. A banner that read MIDDLE DAY MARKET.
5. It felt unimportant, stuck in the middle with nobody celebrating it.
6. Wednesday felt happy and valued after the villagers celebrated it.