Name: _____ Date: _____

A Shadow Tells the Time

Circle group

A sundial is a clock. It has no gears. It uses the sun.

It has a flat plate and a tall stick. The sun shines on the stick. The stick makes a shadow.

The shadow moves in the day. Where it falls tells the time.

A sundial does not work at night.

Questions

1. What does a sundial use?

_____

_____

2. What two parts does a sundial have?

_____

_____

3. What does the stick make?

_____

_____

4. What moves in the day?

_____

_____

5. Why does a sundial not work at night?

_____

_____

Words to know

sundial: a clock that uses the sun and a shadow
shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
plate: a flat piece of something
gears: small wheels with teeth inside a clock

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: _____

A Shadow Tells the Time

Triangle group

A sundial is a clock with no gears. It uses the sun.

A sundial has a flat plate and a tall stick. The sun shines on the stick. The stick makes a shadow on the plate.

As the day goes on, the shadow moves. The place where it falls tells the time.

A sundial does not work at night.

Questions

1. What does a sundial use to tell time?

_____

_____

2. What two parts does a sundial have?

_____

_____

3. What does the stick make on the plate?

_____

_____

4. What moves as the day goes on?

_____

_____

5. Why does a sundial not work at night?

_____

_____

Words to know

sundial: a clock that uses the sun and a shadow
shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
plate: a flat piece of something
gears: small wheels with teeth inside a clock

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: _____

A Shadow Tells the Time

Square group

A sundial is a kind of clock that has no gears at all. Instead, it uses the light of the sun.

It is made of a flat plate and a tall stick. When the sun shines on the stick, the stick casts a shadow across the plate.

As the hours of the day pass, the shadow slowly moves. The spot where the shadow falls tells you the time.

Of course, a sundial cannot work at night.

Questions

1. What does a sundial use to tell the time?

_____

_____

2. What two parts is a sundial made of?

_____

_____

3. What does the stick cast across the plate?

_____

_____

4. What slowly moves as the hours pass?

_____

_____

5. Why can a sundial not work at night?

_____

_____

Words to know

sundial: a clock that uses the sun and a shadow
shadow: a dark shape made when something blocks light
plate: a flat piece of something
gears: small wheels with teeth inside a clock

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: A Shadow Tells the Time

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

Circle: A Shadow Tells the Time

Easier · 52 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.1

1. The sun.
2. A flat plate and a tall stick.
3. A shadow.
4. The shadow.
5. There is no sun for a shadow.

Triangle: A Shadow Tells the Time

This passage · 59 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.9

1. The sun.
2. A flat plate and a tall stick.
3. A shadow.
4. The shadow.
5. There is no sun to make the shadow.

Square: A Shadow Tells the Time

Harder · 76 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.3

1. The light of the sun.
2. A flat plate and a tall stick.
3. A shadow.
4. The shadow.
5. There is no sunlight to make the shadow.