Name: _____ Date: _____

Wax Pushes the Paint Away

Circle group

Here is a trick. Draw a star on paper with a white crayon. It is hard to see.

Now paint the paper blue. Swish, swish! The star shows up. It stays white!

A crayon is made of wax. Wax pushes water away. The paint slides off the wax. The star is not blue.

Questions

1. What do you draw with first?

_____

_____

2. What color do you paint the paper?

_____

_____

3. What color is the star after you paint?

_____

_____

4. What is a crayon made of?

_____

_____

5. Why is the star not blue?

_____

_____

Words to know

wax: a smooth stuff that water does not soak into
crayon: a colored stick for drawing
swish: a soft sweeping sound
trick: a clever way to do something

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: _____

Wax Pushes the Paint Away

Triangle group

Here is a trick. Draw a star on paper with a white crayon. You can hardly see it.

Now paint over the paper with blue paint. Swish, swish! The star shows up. It stays white!

A crayon is made of wax. Wax pushes water away. The wet paint slides off the wax. So the star is not blue.

Questions

1. What do you draw with first?

_____

_____

2. What do you paint over the paper?

_____

_____

3. What color is the star after you paint?

_____

_____

4. What is a crayon made of?

_____

_____

5. Why does the paint not stick to the star?

_____

_____

Words to know

wax: a smooth stuff that water does not soak into
crayon: a colored stick for drawing
swish: a soft sweeping sound
trick: a clever way to do something

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: _____

Wax Pushes the Paint Away

Square group

Here is a clever trick you can try with art supplies. First, draw a star on a sheet of paper using a white crayon. At this point, the star is very difficult to see.

Next, paint over the whole sheet with blue paint, using big sweeping strokes. Swish, swish! The star suddenly appears, and it stays white!

A crayon is made of wax, and wax pushes water away. The wet paint slides off the wax, which is why the star does not turn blue.

Questions

1. What do you use to draw the star at first?

_____

_____

2. What do you paint over the whole sheet?

_____

_____

3. What color does the star stay after you paint?

_____

_____

4. What material is a crayon made of?

_____

_____

5. Why does the star not turn blue like the rest of the paper?

_____

_____

Words to know

wax: a smooth stuff that water does not soak into
crayon: a colored stick for drawing
swish: a soft sweeping sound
trick: a clever way to do something

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: Wax Pushes the Paint Away

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

Circle: Wax Pushes the Paint Away

Easier · 53 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.8

1. A white crayon.
2. Blue.
3. White.
4. Wax.
5. Wax pushes the wet paint away.

Triangle: Wax Pushes the Paint Away

This passage · 58 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.3

1. A white crayon.
2. Blue paint.
3. White.
4. Wax.
5. Wax pushes water away, so the wet paint slides off.

Square: Wax Pushes the Paint Away

Harder · 84 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.7

1. A white crayon.
2. Blue paint.
3. White.
4. Wax.
5. Wax pushes water away, so the wet paint slides off it.