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Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer, or write your answer on the lines.

READ THIS FIRST

How Crayons Are Made

Crayons seem simple, but making them takes several careful steps. Most crayons start as paraffin wax. When it is hot, this wax is a clear liquid. Factories store it in huge heated tanks so it stays melted.

To make a color, workers mix powdered pigment into the hot wax. A pigment is a powder that gives something its color. Each color has its own recipe. Some colors need more than one pigment. Workers measure carefully, because a little too much powder can change the shade.

Next, the colored wax is poured into a long metal mold. The mold has hundreds of small, crayon-shaped holes. Cold water flows underneath the mold. The water cools the wax in a few minutes, and it hardens into crayons.

A machine then pushes the crayons up and out of the mold. Workers check each batch. They look for crayons that are broken, chipped, or bumpy. These crayons are not thrown away. They are melted down and used again.

Finally, a labeling machine wraps each crayon in a paper label. The label shows the color's name. Then the crayons are sorted and packed into boxes. A big factory can make millions of crayons in a single day. Each crayon follows the same path, from hot wax to a box on a store shelf.

1. What makes the wax harden in the mold?
   - powder mixed into the hot wax
   - a fan blowing air over the mold
   - cold water flowing under the mold
   - a machine pushing up the crayons

2. What do workers look for when they check each batch?
   - broken, chipped, or bumpy crayons
   - crayons with the wrong label
   - crayons that have too much wax
   - crayons that are much too long

3. Which sentence proves that crayon wax starts as a liquid?
   - When it is hot, this wax is a clear liquid.
   - Most crayons start as paraffin wax.
   - A pigment is a powder that gives something its color.
   - Cold water flows underneath the mold.

4. Which detail explains why workers measure the pigment carefully?
   - Some colors need more than one pigment.
   - The wax is kept in heated tanks.
   - Each color has its own recipe.
   - Too much powder can change the shade.

5. Which claim is NOT supported by the text?
A mold has crayon-shaped holes.
Broken crayons are thrown in the trash.
Each label shows the color's name.
Cold water helps the wax harden.

6. Which sentence tells the meaning of the word pigment?
Some colors need more than one pigment.
A pigment is a powder that gives something its color.
Each color has its own recipe.
To make a color, workers mix powdered pigment into the hot wax.

7. What happens right after the wax is poured into the mold?
Workers check for broken crayons.
Workers mix in the pigment.
A machine wraps on labels.
Cold water cools the wax.

8. A student says crayon factories do not waste wax. Which sentence supports this?
They are melted down and used again.
Then the crayons are sorted and packed into boxes.
Workers check each batch.
Factories store it in huge heated tanks so it stays melted.

9. Look back at question 1. Copy the sentence from the text that proves your answer.

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10. Look back at question 2. Copy the sentence from the text that proves your answer.

_____

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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_____

_____

the copied sentence comes from the text and supports the answer to question 1.

10. Look back at question 2. Copy the sentence from the text that proves your answer.

_____

_____

the copied sentence comes from the text and supports the answer to question 2.