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Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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?
   - a machine pushing up the crayons
   - powder mixed into the hot wax
   - cold water flowing under the mold
   - a fan blowing air over the mold

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

3. Which sentence proves that crayon wax starts as a liquid?
   - Most crayons start as paraffin wax.
   - When it is hot, this wax is a clear liquid.
   - 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.
   - Too much powder can change the shade.
   - Each color has its own recipe.

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

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?
A machine wraps on labels.
Workers mix in the pigment.
Cold water cools the wax.
Workers check for broken crayons.

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

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.