Visual Information

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Where Old Paper Goes

Every week, families in Cedar Grove put old newspapers, cereal boxes, and junk mail into blue recycling bins. Then the bins are emptied into a truck. But what happens after the truck drives away? The paper begins a journey that brings it back as something new.

First, the truck carries the paper to a recycling center. There, the paper is sorted. Workers and machines separate newspaper from cardboard and office paper. They also pull out things that do not belong, like plastic bags and bottle caps. Each kind of paper is pressed into a giant block called a bale.

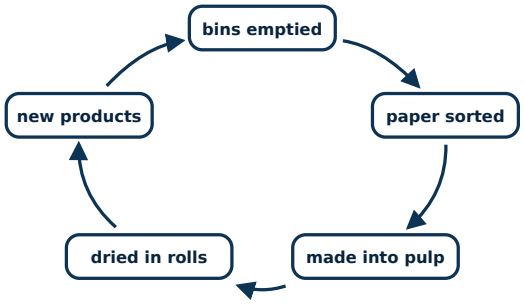
Next, the bales go to a paper mill. At the mill, the paper is dropped into a huge tank of water. Big blades stir it until it breaks into tiny fibers. This wet, mushy mix is called pulp. Screens and filters remove ink, glue, and staples from the pulp.

Then the clean pulp is spread in a thin layer on a long screen. Water drains away, and heavy rollers squeeze out even more. Hot rollers dry the sheet. At the end of the machine, the new paper is wound onto enormous rolls. Some rolls weigh more than a car!

Finally, the rolls are cut and shaped into new products. Recycled paper can become notebooks, egg cartons, tissue, and new cereal boxes. Stores sell these products, and families take them home. When they are used up, many go right back into the blue bin.

Paper cannot be recycled forever, though. Each time it is recycled, the tiny fibers get shorter and weaker. After about five to seven trips, the fibers are too short to hold together. That is why mills add some new wood fibers to keep the paper strong.

Recycling paper saves trees, water, and energy. The diagram shows the journey as a circle, because the same paper can travel around it again and again.

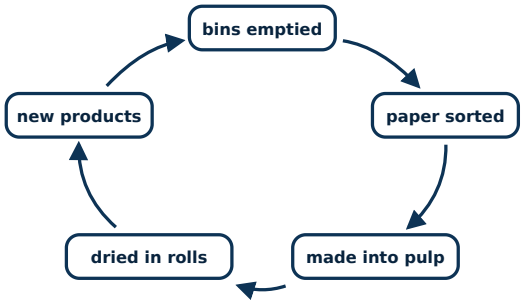


1. Look at the diagram. Which step comes right before "made into pulp"?
   dried in rolls paper sorted new products bins emptied

2. Families use up the new products. Which step on the diagram comes next?
   dried in rolls paper sorted bins emptied made into pulp

3. What does the circle shape of the diagram show?
   The same paper can go through the steps again.
   The new paper is shaped like a circle.
   Each step takes the same amount of time.
   Paper is always sorted two times.

4. Which step on the diagram comes right after "made into pulp"?



paper sorted bins emptied dried in rolls new products

5. The text says screens remove ink, glue, and staples. During which step on the diagram does this happen?
paper sorted dried in rolls bins emptied made into pulp

6. A notebook made from recycled paper is for sale in a store. Which step on the diagram is it part of?
new products dried in rolls bins emptied paper sorted

7. What does the text tell that the diagram does NOT show?
why the fibers wear out after several trips
the order of the five steps
that new products come after drying
that paper is sorted before it becomes pulp

8. What is a bale, according to the text?
a tank of water and blades
an enormous roll of new paper
a wet, mushy mix of fibers
a giant block of pressed paper

9. Why do paper mills add some new wood fibers?
New fibers remove the ink and glue.
Machines cannot dry recycled paper.
Recycled fibers get too short and weak.
Stores will not sell recycled paper.

10. Which of these can recycled paper become?
plastic bags and bottle caps
glass jars and lids
metal staples and clips
egg cartons and tissue

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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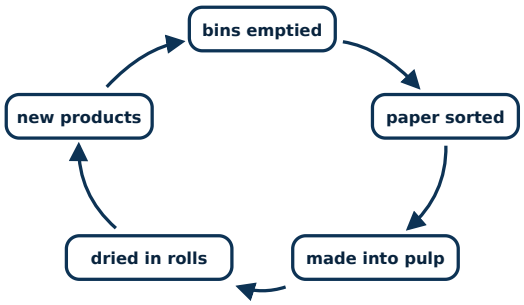
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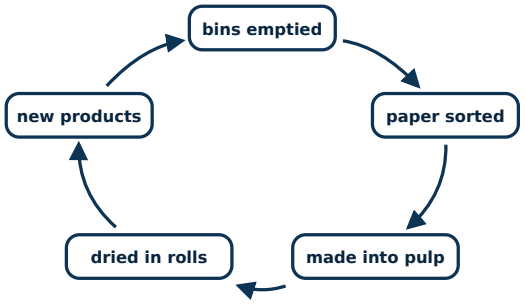


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