

Informational text passage written at three reading levels!

Name: _____

Fidget Spinners

Fidget Spinners took the world by storm in 2017. They were touted as a device that could help people focus and they quickly became collectible toys that stores could not keep on the shelves. Their popularity spread rapidly. Despite their positive and there was quite a

The history of the fidget spinner has been able to trace the inventor of the fidget spinner back to Catherine Hettinger in 1993. A patent allows someone to make something for a specific amount of time. Hettinger did not look like the fidget spinner. It was later decided that she did not invent the fidget spinner.

There are many different designs. A bearing is in the middle of the spinner to help it spin easily. A spinner usually has three extensions that are heavier to help facilitate quicker spinning. Fidget spinners are made with different materials, colors and designs. Some fidget spinners have logos on them and some even light up.

Different social media videos became so popular that people learned to use fidget spinners for tricks. They would record themselves and share the videos. There are many videos online that show people doing tricks with fidget spinners.

Fidget spinners became so popular that they were the top selling item in gas stations and craft stores. It was an advantage of the popularity of that feature a digital fidget spinner.

Teachers across the country were not as enthralled with fidget spinners as their students. Many teachers felt that students spent too much time focusing on fidget spinners. Schools banned them from classrooms. There have been no studies that show that fidget spinners actually help students focus, which is contrary to claims made by companies that make fidget spinners.

Name: _____

Fidget Spinners

Fidget Spinners took the world by storm in 2017. They were touted as an item that could help people focus. They quickly became so popular that stores regularly sold out of them. Even though they were very popular, not everyone thought they were positive and there was quite a bit of backlash from some teachers.

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There are many different designs. A bearing is in the middle of the spinner to help it spin easily. A spinner usually has three extensions that are heavier to help facilitate quicker spinning. Fidget spinners are made with different materials, colors and designs. Some fidget spinners have logos on them and some even light up.

Social media was part of the reason that fidget spinners became so popular. People learned to use fidget spinners for tricks. They would record themselves and share the videos. There are many videos online that show people doing tricks with fidget spinners.

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Name: _____

Fidget Spinners

Fidget Spinners became popular in 2017. They were touted as an item that could help people focus. They quickly became so popular that stores sold out of them. Not everyone was happy about them and there was quite a bit of backlash from some teachers.

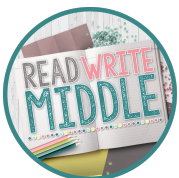
The history of the fidget spinner has been able to trace the inventor of the fidget spinner back to Catherine Hettinger in 1993. A patent allows someone to make something for a specific amount of time. Hettinger did not look like the fidget spinner. It was later decided that she did not invent the fidget spinner.

There are many different makers of fidget spinners, but they all look alike for the most part. A bearing is in the middle of the spinner for easy spinning. A spinner usually has three extensions that are heavier to help facilitate quicker spinning. Fidget spinners are made with different materials, colors and designs. Some fidget spinners have logos on them and some even light up.

Social media was part of the reason that fidget spinners became so popular. People learned to use fidget spinners for tricks. They would record themselves and share the videos. There are many videos online that show people doing tricks with fidget spinners.

Fidget spinners became so popular and many stores kept running out of them. They were even sold in gas stations and craft stores. It was an advantage of the popularity of that feature a digital fidget spinner.

Teachers were not as enthralled with fidget spinners as their students. Many teachers felt that students spent too much time focusing on fidget spinners. Schools banned them from classrooms. There have been no studies that show that fidget spinners actually help students focus, which is contrary to claims made by companies that make fidget spinners.



Differentiated context clues activity!

Name: _____

Context Clues

Look back in the passage and use context clues to determine the meaning of each word. Determine what each word means based on the way it is used in the passage and then write down context clues from the text that helped you.

1. touted: _____
context clues: _____
2. backlash: _____
context clues: _____
3. murky: _____
context clues: _____
4. erroneously: _____
context clues: _____
5. facilitate: _____
context clues: _____
6. enthralled: _____
context clues: _____
7. contrary: _____
context clues: _____

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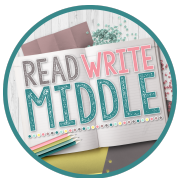
Name: _____

Context Clues

Look back in the passage and use context clues to determine the meaning of each word. Circle the answer and then write down context clues from the text that helped you determine the answer.

1. touted
a. advertised b. criticized c. praised
context clues: _____
2. backlash
a. caution b. praise c. reaction
context clues: _____
3. murky
a. unclear b. clear c. unfortunate
context clues: _____
4. erroneously
a. correctly b. initially c. wrongly
context clues: _____
5. facilitate
a. prevent b. help c. slow
context clues: _____
6. enthralled
a. annoyed b. fascinated c. worried
context clues: _____
7. contrary
a. opposite b. exactly c. supported
context clues: _____

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Writing assignment, comprehension questions and multiple choice quiz also included!!

Name: _____

Persuasive Writing

Schools across the country have banned fidget spinners because they claim that they are too distracting for students. Write a letter to your principal to ask them to support or oppose a schoolwide ban on fidget spinners. In your letter you need to:

- explain the benefits of fidget spinners
- explain the drawbacks of fidget spinners
- explain why you believe they should be banned or not
- choose words that are appropriate to support your argument

Dear Principal,

Name: _____

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. What evidence did the author include to support the claim that fidget spinners were very popular?

2. What claim did the author make about the fidget spinner product?

3. What role did social media play in the popularity of the fidget spinner?

4. Why were there so many different designs of fidget spinners?

5. How did some schools respond to the popularity of fidget spinners?

6. What are two features of the fidget spinner?

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Reading Quiz

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. What is the central idea of the passage?
 - a. Fidget spinners help people concentrate.
 - b. Many schools have banned fidget spinners.
 - c. Fidget spinners are very popular toys.
 - d. Many stores sold out of fidget spinners.
2. What showed that Catherine Hettinger was the inventor of the fidget spinner?
 - a. Hettinger stated that she invented the fidget spinner.
 - b. Hettinger's invention does not look like a fidget spinner.
 - c. Hettinger invented something called a "spinning toy".
 - d. Hettinger sued the company that sells fidget spinners.
3. Why would makers of the fidget spinner claim that it could help with concentration?
 - a. Studies showed that it does help with concentration.
 - b. To help promote sales for fidget spinners.
 - c. To encourage schools to purchase fidget spinners.
 - d. To help students that struggle in school.
4. Why would the author include the last paragraph in the passage?
 - a. To explain the benefits of fidget spinners.
 - b. To explain that some schools do not like fidget spinners.
 - c. To explain why some schools have banned fidget spinners.
 - d. To explain why some schools have banned fidget spinners.
5. How does the author feel about fidget spinners?
 - a. The author thinks that fidget spinners are a wonderful invention.
 - b. The author likes fidget spinners but doesn't understand them.
 - c. The author doesn't care about fidget spinners.
 - d. The author doesn't really share their opinion about fidget spinners.

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