

# Property Detectives

Use questions to sort objects by what they are like.

**S2P1.a** "Ask questions to describe and classify different objects according to their physical properties."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline every question that helps test a physical property. Circle the property words that help the class make groups.

### The Mystery Tray

- ① Ms. Lin put four objects on a tray: a shell, a sponge, a metal key, and a rubber band. The class used their eyes and hands safely. They noticed that objects can be hard or soft, smooth or rough, and bendy or stiff.
- ② Instead of guessing, the class asked property questions. "Is it soft or hard?" helped them compare the sponge and key. "Can it bend?" helped them compare the rubber band and shell. These questions gave the class clues for putting objects into groups.
- ③ The class made a soft group and a hard group. The sponge went in the soft group. The shell and metal key went in the hard group. The rubber band fit in another group because it could bend. One object can have more than one property.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** What question would help you decide whether an object belongs with the sponge or with the metal key?

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**2** Which tray object belongs in a group of objects that can bend? Write the question that supports your choice.

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**3** The shell and key are hard. Write a question that could help sort them by another property named in paragraph 1.

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Choose three classroom objects. In the table, write a question about a physical property for each object, then name a group where it belongs.

| OBJECT | PROPERTY QUESTION | GROUP |
|--------|-------------------|-------|
|        |                   |       |
|        |                   |       |
|        |                   |       |

**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline every question that helps test a physical property. Circle the property words that help the class make groups. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                         | ANSWER                                 |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1 | What question would help you decide whether an object belongs with the sponge or with the metal key?             | <b>Is it soft or hard?</b>             |
| 2 | Which tray object belongs in a group of objects that can bend? Write the question that supports your choice.     | <b>The rubber band. "Can it bend?"</b> |
| 3 | The shell and key are hard. Write a question that could help sort them by another property named in paragraph 1. | <b>Is it smooth or rough?</b>          |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

| OBJECT      | PROPERTY QUESTION      | GROUP          |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Paper clip  | Can it bend?           | Bendy objects  |
| Cotton ball | Is it soft or hard?    | Soft objects   |
| Wood block  | Is it smooth or rough? | Smooth objects |

Accept property questions about observable traits, such as hardness, texture, flexibility, size, shape, or material. Accept a sensible group that matches the student's question and named object.