Cider at the Fair

Read a fair-day story to compare supply and demand.

4.SS.3.2 "Explain the concepts of supply and demand and scarcity."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the total number of cups offered in each fair-day situation, and circle the number of children who want a cup. Write S beside the situation in which cider is scarce.

Will There Be Enough Cider?

1. At the school fair, a booth has 30 cups of apple cider ready to sell. At the price on the sign, 45 children want to buy one cup each. Supply is the number of cups the booth can offer. Demand is the number of cups people want to buy at that price. Because demand is greater than supply, cider is scarce. Not everyone who wants a cup can buy one.

2. Before sales begin, a neighbor brings enough apples for 20 more cups. Now the booth can offer 50 cups. If the same 45 children still want one cup each, there is enough cider for all of them. Five cups could be left. The extra apples increased supply. Whether cider is scarce depends on how many cups are available compared with how many people want at that price.

3. Imagine a different fair day. The booth again has 30 cups, but rain keeps many children inside. Only 15 children want cider at the price on the sign. Demand is lower, even though supply has not changed. Some cups may be left over, so the seller might lower the price to attract buyers. On the busy first day, the seller might raise the price instead.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why is cider scarce on the busy first day? Use supply and demand in your answer.

2. How does the neighbor's delivery change the supply and the shortage before sales begin?

3. On the rainy day, what changes, supply or demand? Why might cups be left over?

4. Why might the seller lower the price on the rainy day but raise it on the busy first day?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a booth selling an item other than cider. In three sentences, give its supply and demand at one price, explain whether the item is scarce, and describe one change in supply or demand that would change the situation.

ANSWER KEY

Cider at the Fair

GRADE 4 · 4.SS.3.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the total number of cups offered in each fair-day situation, and circle the number of children who want a cup. Write S beside the situation in which cider is scarce. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why is cider scarce on the busy first day? Use supply and demand in your answer.	**The supply is 30 cups, but the demand is 45 cups at the listed price, so there are not enough cups for everyone who wants one.**
2	How does the neighbor's delivery change the supply and the shortage before sales begin?	**Supply rises from 30 to 50 cups. With 45 children wanting cider, there is no longer a shortage at that price.**
3	On the rainy day, what changes, supply or demand? Why might cups be left over?	**Demand falls to 15 children, while supply stays at 30 cups. If each child buys one cup, 15 cups are left over.**
4	Why might the seller lower the price on the rainy day but raise it on the busy first day?	**The seller might lower the price to attract buyers when demand is low. On the busy day, demand is greater than supply, so the seller might raise the price.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A booth has 20 paper crowns to sell for two dollars each, and 28 children want one at that price. The crowns are scarce because demand is higher than supply. If the booth makes 10 more crowns before sales begin, supply will rise to 30, so all 28 children can get one.

Accept explanations that correctly compare the amount offered with the amount wanted at a given price. For Your Turn, check that the proposed change affects supply or demand and supports the stated result.