

Name:

Nonfiction: Main Idea – Q2:1

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

Carousels: Before They Were Kiddie Rides

Carousels are an amusement park favorite. People of all ages enjoy taking a gentle spin on the galloping painted horses. The history of this kiddie ride might surprise you. It begins 1,500 years ago with an early version of paintball played on horseback.

In the 11th century, Arabian and Turkish horsemen played a competitive game of catch called garosella. Little clay balls were thrown back and forth between riders. If a rider missed the catch and got hit by the ball, it burst open. The balls weren't filled with paint, though. They held strongly scented oil. When the ball broke, it **doused** the rider in heavy perfume. He smelled of his loss for days.

Europeans adapted the name of that game to their own tournaments. They called them carosellas. European games didn't involve throwing balls of perfume, but they did test a competitor's horsemanship. For example, French knights competed in a ring spearing contest. Riding at full speed, they tried to spear a hanging golden ring. Riders needed a steady hand and a keen eye. These skills took practice.

The original carousels were built to help knights master their swordsmanship on horseback. These early carousels weren't very fancy. The wooden horses looked more like short, carved logs. The horses didn't have legs. They hung from chains that extended out from a central, rotating pole. Small objects dangled around the carousel's outer edge. Servants, mules or real horses pulled the carousel around. As the carousel turned, the knights tried to spear these objects with their lances.

The French nobility thought riding carousels looked like fun. Many wealthy families had carousels built in their own backyards. The popularity of carousels spread across Europe and into America. Carousels became featured attractions at country fairs and carnivals. Men, women and children have ridden carousels for fun ever since.



Monday	Tuesday
<p>Based on the title, what is this text most likely about?</p> <hr/>	<p>What is the text about?</p> <hr/>
<p>What might be another good title for this text?</p> <hr/>	<p>Which detail from the text supports the main idea?</p> <p>a. The original carousels were built to help knights master their swordsmanship on horseback.</p> <p>b. These skills took practice.</p>
<p>How is the game Garosella similar to paintball?</p> <hr/>	<p>How were the Arabian games and European games similar?</p> <hr/>
<p>According to the text, what does the word doused mean?</p> <hr/>	<p>According to the text, what skills did a rider need to be successful in European tournaments?</p> <hr/>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>What is the fourth paragraph mostly about?</p> <hr/>	<p>What is the second paragraph mostly about?</p> <hr/>
<p>In the game of Garosella, how might you know if a player lost?</p> <hr/>	<p>Based on the text, how would you describe the original carousels?</p> <hr/>
<p>What was the purpose of the original carousels?</p> <hr/>	<p>How do today's carousels differ from the original carousels?</p> <hr/>
<p>What is the purpose of carousels today?</p> <hr/>	<p>Why did the author write this text?</p> <hr/>

More of My Thinking

Monday	Tuesday
Wednesday	Thursday

My Progress

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
____ out of 4 correct I need more help with...	____ out of 4 correct I need more help with...	____ out of 4 correct I need more help with...	____ out of 4 correct I need more help with...

Answer Key - Nonfiction: Main Idea - Q2:1

Monday	Tuesday
<p>Based on the title, what is this text most likely about?</p> <p>Accept all reasonable answers.</p>	<p>What is the text about?</p> <p>The history of the carousel</p>
<p>What might be another good title for this text?</p> <p>Accept all reasonable answers.</p>	<p>Which detail from the text supports the main idea?</p> <p>a. The original carousels were built to help knights master their swordsmanship on horseback.</p> <p>b. These skills took practice.</p>
<p>How is the game Garosella similar to paintball?</p> <p>Both games are played using small balls filled with liquid.</p>	<p>How were the Arabian games and European games similar?</p> <p>They were both played on horses.</p>
<p>According to the text, what does the word doused mean?</p> <p>soaked; wet</p>	<p>According to the text, what skills did a rider need to be successful in European tournaments?</p> <p>They needed to have a steady hand and a keen eye.</p>
Wednesday	Thursday
<p>What is the fourth paragraph mostly about?</p> <p>All about the original carousels. Accept all reasonable answers.</p>	<p>What is the second paragraph mostly about?</p> <p>European tournaments called Carosellas.</p>
<p>In the game of Garosella, how might you know if a player lost?</p> <p>They will smell of heavy perfume.</p>	<p>Based on the text, how would you describe the original carousels?</p> <p>They weren't very fancy. Accept all reasonable answers.</p>
<p>What was the purpose of the original carousels?</p> <p>To help knights master their swordsmanship on horseback.</p>	<p>How do today's carousels differ from the original carousels?</p> <p>Today's carousels are used for enjoyment and are very pleasant looking. Accept all reasonable answers.</p>
<p>What is the purpose of carousels today?</p> <p>To have fun</p>	<p>Why did the author write this text?</p> <p>To inform the reader about where carousels came from.</p>