

Reading for Details I

A Day Reading by Nancy Scarry

“Martin. Time for lunch,” Mom called. No answer. “Martin, lunch.” No answer.

“Martin. Where are you?” No answer.

Mom finished setting the table. Then went to look for Martin. She looked in the living room. No Martin. She looked in the family room. No Martin. She looked in Martin’s bedroom. No Martin. She looked in the laundry room. No Martin.

“Where is that boy?” she asked herself.

Mom had an idea. She walked outside to Martin’s treehouse. She gave the secret knock. Martin looked down.

“Oh. Hi Mom,” he said.

“Martin lunch is ready.”

“I am reading my new book. Can I eat after I finish this chapter?” Martin asked.

“No, come on. Lunch is ready. You can continue reading after lunch.”

“Okay.” Martin used a leaf for a bookmark. Climbed down from his treehouse. And followed his mom into the house.

Martin was delighted to see his favorite lunch. There was spicy hummus, pitas, slices of carrots, black olives, broccoli, and dill pickles.

After he finished lunch, Martin said, “That was a great lunch, Mom.”

“Thanks. But you haven’t finished your fruit yet.”

“Can I take it with me? I can eat it while I read my book.”

“You really must like your book. Which book are you reading?” Mom asked.

“My birthday present from Uncle Will. It is about a boy who loses everything. First he loses pens, pencils, books, socks, shoes, and his toothbrush. He lost his watch and his cell phone. He even lost his dog.”

“Where did his things go?” Mom asked.

“I don’t know. I haven’t gotten to that part yet.”

Martin went back to his treehouse. He quickly climbed the ladder. He couldn’t wait to get back to his book.

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This story is mostly about:

- A. reading a good book.
- B. Martin's poor grades.
- C. losing things.
- D. what to eat for lunch.

The story mentions losing things and a good lunch. But it talks mostly about the book Martin is reading.

What are some of the things lost in the story?

- A. The boy lost pens, pencils, and his toothbrush.
- B. The boy lost his cat.
- C. The boy lost a notebook and markers.
- D. The boy lost his baseball and trumpet.

The boy lost pens, pencils, books, socks, shoes, and his toothbrush. He lost his watch and his cell phone. He even lost his dog.

We do not know if the boy had a cat, notebook, markers, baseball, or a trumpet to lose.

Martin's favorite lunch is:

- A. spicy hummus, pitas, slices of carrots, black olives, broccoli, and dill pickles.
- B. pizza and salad.
- C. carrots and peanut butter sandwiches.
- D. a salad of lettuce, cucumbers, black olives, and dill pickles.

The story states that Martin's favorite lunch is spicy hummus, pitas, slices of carrots, black olives, broccoli, and dill pickles. Pizza, carrot and peanut butter sandwiches, and salad are not mentioned.

You can guess that:

- A. the treehouse is a good place to read.
- B. Martin is afraid of heights.
- C. Martin has a nice aunt.
- D. the book is not very interesting.

Martin spent the day alone in his treehouse reading. It must be a good place to read. The book must be interesting since he spent all day reading it. If he was afraid of heights, he probably wouldn't climb into a treehouse. Martin might have a nice aunt. From the story we only know that he has a nice uncle who gave him the book.

Something to think about:

What is your favorite place to spend an afternoon reading?

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A Pie Making Lesson

by Nancy Scarry

My grandmother taught me how to make pies. We made all kinds of fruit pies. We even made coconut and chocolate pies.

Auntie Jane told me that she had never made a pie. She asked me for a pie making lesson. I took my cookbook with me. It has family recipes. It has recipes from friends. And recipes that I made up. Auntie Jane said that their plum tree was full. We found a recipe for plum pie.

We walked through her orchard. We walked past apple, pear, and avocado trees. Auntie Jane and I picked the plums we could reach. Uncle Will picked the plums high in the tree.

We washed 24 plums and put them in a pan to simmer. Then we made dough for the crust. I rolled the dough into a round. Then I pressed it into the pie plate. Auntie Jane put it in the oven to bake. She turned off the heat on the plums. I cut stars from the left-over dough. The plums had cooled. So, I mashed, smashed, and stirred them. We removed 24 pits from the pan. Some people call the pits “stones”. Then I stirred in some sugar. Auntie Jane pulled the pie crust out of the oven. Then she poured the plum mixture into it. I topped the plum mixture with the dough stars. Auntie Jane popped the pie into the oven.

We washed the dishes and cleaned the kitchen. Uncle Will set out plates, forks, and napkins. The timer rang. The pie was ready, but too hot to eat. It smelled yummy. The stars looked like they were floating in jam. Finally it was time to cut the pie. Auntie Jane placed a piece on each plate. Uncle Will put a scoop of ice cream on each piece. It melted and ran over the edge. Auntie Jane was so happy. She thanked me for teaching her how to make a plum pie. She said she couldn't wait to make other kinds of pie.

This story is mostly about a lesson on:

- A. how to make a plum pie.
- B. how to make a chocolate cake.
- C. how to make plum pudding.
- D. how to make apple pie.

The story is mostly about how to make a plum pie. There is nothing in the story about cakes or pudding.

Uncle Will topped each piece of pie with:

- A. a scoop of ice cream.
- B. a scoop of lemon sauce.
- C. a scoop of apple sauce.
- D. a scoop of pear sauce.

Uncle Will topped each piece of pie with ice cream. Fruit sauce on plum pie might be yummy. It is not part of the story.

How many plums were used in the pie?

- A. 24
- B. 5
- C. 12
- D. 20

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The pie was made with 24 plums.

You can guess that Auntie Jane will:

- A. make pear pies.
- B. make aprons.
- C. make pumpkin bread.
- D. make fruit crumbles.

Auntie Jane said she couldn't wait to make more pies. Since she has a pear tree, she might make pear pies. She might make fruit crumbles. We don't know from the story if she likes crumbles.

Something to think about:

What kind of pie would you like to make?

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A Trip to the Natural History Museum by Nancy Scarry

Riley went to Maryland to visit with Drew and Liam. One day they decided to go to the city. They walked around looking at the buildings, gardens, and sculptures. Then they all stopped and said, "Let's go in!" They were standing in front of the Natural History Museum.

There were many exciting exhibits to see. They especially liked the exhibits of fossils. Riley and Drew's favorite was the sea turtle exhibit. A skeleton of a giant sea turtle was hanging on the wall. It made them think of shields from the time of King Arthur.

Liam liked the Native American baskets. They were woven from plants. He had done a weaving project in school. They used plastic and paper grocery bags for their project.

The next morning Drew, Liam, and Riley made shields and baskets. They used twigs, branches, plants, and grasses from the garden. Riley and Drew hung their shields from an apple tree. Liam placed his baskets below it. They invited their parents, friends, and neighbors to visit their exhibit.

This story is mostly about:

- A. visiting the Natural History Museum.
- B. a trip to California.
- C. turtles.
- D. Native American baskets.

Most of the story is about visiting the Natural History Museum. One paragraph talks about making baskets and shields. There isn't mention of a visit to California. A turtle fossil is only one thing mentioned.

Native American baskets were woven from?

- A. Plants.
- B. Turtle shells.
- C. Plastic.
- D. Paper bags.

The Native Americans used plants. Liam used plastic and paper bags in school.

After they visited the museum, Drew, Liam, and Riley made:

- A. shields and baskets.
- B. kites.
- C. shields and cups.
- D. hats and scarves.

They made shields and baskets. They did not make kites and cups, or hats and scarves.

After reading the story you can guess that:

- A. museums have interesting things to see.
- B. visiting museums is boring.
- C. King Arthur used a turtle shell for a shield.
- D. the city is not a fun place to visit.

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They saw fun and interesting things at the Natural History Museum, in the city. They thought the turtle shell looked like a shield.

Something to think about:

Would you like to visit a Natural History Museum?

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Birthday Trip to The Big City by Nancy Scarry

Today I am eleven years old. I'm so excited! Mom and Dad are taking my sister Annie and me to The Big City. We live near a city, but The Big City is two hours away. That means we will be taking the train. I love trains! This is going to be a great adventure.

When we arrived at the train station we bought train passes. Each of us has our own pass. Annie feels like a big girl carrying her own pass. She giggled when she put it in the slot and it popped up. She put it in the pocket of her sweater.

We were going to The Big City to see a musical. It is about lions and tigers. We arrived at the theater a little early. We decided to walk around. There were loads of shops, galleries, and places to eat. There was even an art museum. In front there were large sculptures of rabbits. One had small pieces of mirror attached. One had an opening in the center. It was large enough for us to climb through. Mom took some photos and sent them to our grandparents.

We walked back to the theater. Once inside we easily found our seats. We were ready for the show. The costumes were amazing. Sometimes two people worked together to appear as one animal. The songs were fun, sometimes funny. The actors didn't stay on the stage. One of the actors stood right next to me! It was totally awesome.

On the way out, we talked about what we saw. I asked Mom if I could buy the CD. I used some of my birthday money to pay for it. Annie was hungry, so we stopped for lunch. While we waited for our food, we talked. We all loved the musical. On the train ride home we talked about the musical. When we got home we played the CD. It was the best birthday ever!

This story is mostly about:

- A. a trip to The Big City to see a musical.
- B. a trip to the desert.
- C. musicals about trains.
- D. taking a trip on a train.

The story is about a family taking a trip to The Big City to see a musical. The family traveled to The Big City, not to the desert. The musical was about lions and tigers, not trains.

How many rabbit sculptures were in front of the art museum?

- A. 2
- B. 5
- C. 3
- D. 1

There were 2 rabbit sculptures in front of the art museum. One had mirror pieces. The other had an opening large enough for the kids to climb through.

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During the musical:

- A. sometimes two people worked together to appear as one animal.
- B. the actors did not wear costumes.
- C. the songs were not fun or funny.
- D. all of the actors stood on the stage and sang.

The story mentions that the costumes were amazing. And sometimes two people worked together to appear as one animal. During the musical, some of the actors didn't stay on the stage. The story stated that the songs were fun and sometimes funny.

You can guess that:

- A. the family enjoyed their time in The Big City.
- B. the family likes musicals about trains.
- C. the family likes to travel by bus.
- D. the family does not like visiting The Big City.

The family enjoyed traveling by train. They enjoyed seeing the sights. They enjoyed the musical. We know that the family liked the musical about lions and tigers. We know that the family enjoyed traveling by train. We do not know if they would also enjoy traveling by bus. Or if they would like musicals about trains. The family enjoyed many things when they visited The Big City.

Something to think about:

What would you like to see if you traveled to a big city?

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Bubblegum Alley by Nancy Scarry

Do you like bubble gum? What about a wall covered with bubble gum? What about two walls?

Downtown off of Main Street there is an alley. The alley is between the toy store and the candy store. It is 100 feet long and two stories high. And it is covered with chewed bubblegum. Seriously. Both walls of the alley are covered with used bubblegum. That is why the alley is known as Bubblegum Alley.

Bubblegum Alley started as a joke. The joke grew into a tradition. Now everyone adds gum to the walls. There is every kind, color, and flavor of gum stuck to the walls. Some of the gum is rolled in a ball. Then it is squashed, leaving a fingerprint. Sometimes the gum is stuck to the wall and stretched. The stretched gum becomes words and drawings. Sometimes kids add more than a piece of bubblegum. They add coins, buttons, and toys. The bubblegum works just like glue!

There are some fun scenes. One is a cowboy riding a horse. The word "Giddyup!" is written in yellow gum. There is a green dinosaur stuck on the wall with blue gum. The word "Roarr" is in red gum. There is a drawing of boy on a skateboard. There is a dog running with a frisbee in its mouth. There are rainbows, four leaf clovers, and oodles of hearts.

There are words, dates, names, and sayings. The word "Peace" is in every color of gum. The saying, "Over the Moon" is in yellow gum. It has a drawing of a rabbit in the moon. There are several "the class of..." as far back as 1962.

This story is mostly about:

- A. the tradition of Bubblegum Alley.
- B. eating licorice.
- C. the tradition of Dinosaur Park.
- D. the tradition of the rabbit in the moon.

The story is about the tradition of adding chewed bubble gum to Bubblegum Alley. There is mention of a drawing of the rabbit in the moon and a dinosaur toy. That is only part of the story. Licorice is fun to eat, but is not mentioned in the story.

Bubblegum Alley is:

- A. 100 feet long and two stories high.
- B. 50 feet high.
- C. 200 feet high.
- D. 2 feet long and 100 feet high.

The story states that Bubblegum Alley is 100 feet long and two stories high.

The story says that some people add gum by:

- A. rolling it in a ball and squashing it onto the wall.
- B. using a paper clip.
- C. tossing it onto the wall.
- D. stretching it and draping it over gum already on the wall.

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The gum can be rolled in a ball and squashed or stuck to the wall and stretched. There is mention of sticking things to the wall with gum. There isn't mention of using a paper clip to attach the gum to the wall. Tossing the gum onto the wall and stretching and draping the gum would probably work. We do not know that from the story.

You can guess that:

- A. the candy store sells a lot of bubblegum.
- B. the walls of Bubblegum Alley are covered with chocolate.
- C. Bubblegum Alley is hard to find.
- D. rain washes the bubblegum away.

The candy store is located next to Bubblegum Alley. People can stop in for bubblegum before visiting Bubblegum Alley. The story gives directions for finding Bubblegum Alley. If you can find the toy store, you can find Bubblegum Alley. Bubblegum does not wash away in the rain.

Something to think about:

What would you add to Bubblegum Alley?

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Collections

by Nancy Scarry

Alice and Lacie were eating lunch in the museum cafeteria. Their class came to see the Native American exhibition. They saw collections of baskets, pots, and tools.

Lacie asked. "Alice, do you collect anything?"

"I collect dolls. Not the dolls from the toy store. I collect handmade dolls," Alice answered.

"Where do you find handmade dolls?"

"My parents love to travel. We have visited 20 countries. I have a doll from every country."

Alice took another bite and asked, "Lacie, do you have a collection?"

"Yes. I collect rocks," Lacie replied.

"Rocks? Why do you collect rocks?"

Lacie gave it some thought. "I don't know exactly. I go on hikes. I pick up a rock. I go to the beach. I pick up a rock. I visit a new place. I pick up a rock. I like having a record of where I have been."

"Lacie, That makes a lot of sense. I think the same about collecting dolls. Each doll is a record of where we visited."

"Alice, do you have a favorite doll?"

"That is a really a hard question. The dolls are so different. Some dolls are made from twigs and twine. Some are made of clay. One is even a whistle. I met many of the people who made the dolls. Sometimes I like a doll because of who made it. Or because the day I bought it was a fun day."

Lacie smiled. "That is exactly how I feel about my rocks. It's not because of who made them. But because of the day or the place. A rock can remind me of the time I spent with my family."

"Lacie, would like to see my doll collection?" Alice asked.

"Sure. How about Wednesday after school?"

"Great. Then we can make plans to see your rock collection."

The bell rang. Lunch was over. It was time to go back to school.

This story is mostly about:

- A. talking about collections.
- B. eating lunch.
- C. Native American baskets.
- D. handmade dolls.

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The story is about two girls talking about their collections.

The girls are at lunch. There is mention of Native American baskets. Alice collects handmade dolls. Each of these things are part of the story, but not the main idea.

How many handmade dolls does Alice have in her collection?

- A. 20
- B. 5
- C. 10
- D. 12

Alice has 20 handmade dolls in her collection. She stated that her family has visited 20 countries. She has a doll from each country.

Lacie's collection has:

- A. rocks from hikes and places she has visited.
- B. dolls made of plastic.
- C. handmade dolls made of twigs, twine, and clay.
- D. a carved rock whistle.

Lacie has a rock collection. She collects rocks from places she visits. Alice has a handmade doll collection. One of her dolls is a whistle.

You can guess that:

- A. collecting can help you remember people and places.
- B. collecting is boring.
- C. collecting is hard work.
- D. collecting costs a lot of money.

Collecting can cost money. It doesn't have to. Alice's dolls cost money but Lacie's rocks don't. Lacie and Alice collect things to remind them of places they have been and fun times.

Something to think about:

What would you like to collect?

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Dad Took Me Flying by Nancy Scarry

Dad is a pilot. On the weekends he goes flying. Dad said, “Hey Josh, would you like to go flying today?”

“Yes!!!”

Dad keeps his plane in a hangar at the airport. A hangar is like a large garage with a flip-up door. Dad has a towbar that attaches to the plane. He can then pull the plane out of the hangar. Today Dad asked “Would you like to give it a try?”

The plane was easy to move. After I pulled it out, Dad took over. He removed the towbar and put it in the plane.

Then Dad got out the checklist for the plane. He checked the surface of the plane. No damage. He checked all of the moving parts on the wing. He checked the fuel. It does not have water in it. And the tanks are full. Then he looked under the hood. The hood on a plane is called the cowl. Once Dad found a little bird’s nest tucked under the cowl.

“No nests today. The engine looks great!”

When the checklist is complete, it is time to get in the plane. The plane has two seats in the front. Each seat has controls. Dad is the pilot so he sits in the left seat. I sit in the right. We store our bags behind our seats. We lock the door and windows. Then we put on our seatbelts and headphones. Dad continues his checklist.

It’s time to start the engine. The engine is very loud, but the headphones protect our ears. Dad contacts the ground controller. They tell him where to go.

Dad gets the plane into position. We are ready to take off. More contact with the controller. We are cleared for takeoff.

Dad asks, “Ready?”

“Ready!”

Half way down the runway, the wheels are off the ground. We are flying!

“I can see our house and my school.” We climb higher. “I can see the top of the mountain behind our house.”

After a while Dad asks, “Would you like to take the controls?”

“Yes. I’d love to!”

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This story is mostly about:

- A. Josh going flying with his dad.
- B. Josh going boating with his brother.
- C. hangars for airplanes.
- D. finding nests.

The story is about Josh going flying with his dad. Josh's dad stores his plane in a hangar. But the hangar and nest are only part of the story. We do not know if Josh has a brother. Or if Josh ever goes boating.

When Josh's dad inspects the plane, he uses:

- A. a checklist.
- B. a grocery list.
- C. an inspection list.
- D. a flashlight.

The story tells how Josh's dad uses a checklist. He inspects the plane using the checklist. The story doesn't mention a flashlight.

Josh sat in:

- A. the right seat, in the front.
- B. the middle seat, in the front.
- C. the left seat, in the front.
- D. the back seat.

The plane has two seats in front. Josh's dad sits in the front left seat. Josh sits in the right front seat.

You can guess that:

- A. Josh has flown with his father before.
- B. Josh would rather be riding horses.
- C. they live far from the airport.
- D. pilots never talk to anyone on the radio.

Josh saw his house shortly after takeoff, so they must live near the airport. In the story, the pilot talked to the controller several times. Josh knew how to pull the plane out of the hangar. He also knew how to fly the plane. So he had probably flown with his father before.

Something to think about:

What would you see from the window of a plane flying over your house?

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Reading for Details I

Designing a Skateboard

by Nancy Scarry

Jared had two skateboards. But they weren't quite right. So, he made a drawing of his perfect skateboard. His mother is an artist who has a wood shop. He went to his mother's shop. He showed her his drawing. "Mom, would you help me make a skateboard?" He was too young to use some of the power tools. "Sure. Pick out a piece of wood," his mom answered.

Jared's mom uses reclaimed wood from old buildings. His favorite wood is from old barns. He selected a piece of wood. His mother cut it and smoothed the edges.

Jared painted a dragon and flames on the skateboard. While the paint was drying he had lunch with his mother. When the paint was dry his mother gave him a bucket of clear liquid. She said that it would protect his painting. Jared brushed the liquid on his skateboard. It would take all night for it to dry!

On the way home from the shop they stopped at the sporting goods store. Jared bought his favorite wheels. They would glide right over cracks in the sidewalk.

The next morning, they returned to his mother's shop. The board was dry! His mother drilled holes in the skateboard. Jared attached the wheels. He thanked her for helping him. And he told her how much he loved working with her in her shop. Then he went for a ride on his perfect skateboard.

This story is mostly about:

- A. making a skateboard.
- B. building a table.
- C. wood shops.
- D. Jared's mother and her shop.

Jared's mother is an artist with a wood shop. The story is about how Jared and his mother worked together to make a skateboard.

At the end of the story, how many skateboards did Jared own?

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 2
- D. 1

At the start of the story Jared owns two skateboards. After he makes a skateboard with his mother, he has one more. That makes three skateboards.

Jared's new skateboard has:

- A. a dragon and flames.
- B. a shark and flames.
- C. a rainbow and bear.
- D. waves and a dolphin.

The story mentions that Jared painted a dragon and flames on his skateboard.

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You can guess that:

- A. Jared and his mother like spending time together.
- B. Jared and his dad like working together.
- C. Jared's mother has a sewing shop.
- D. Jared does not like skateboards.

The story states that Jared visited his mother at her wood shop. They worked on his skateboard project together. There was no mention of his father.

Jared probably likes skateboards because he already has two. Then made a new one with his mother.

Something to think about:

What would you like to make if you could work in a wood shop for a day?

Reading for Details I

Family Dinner by Nancy Scarry

It was nearly time for dinner. Jules made a salad and set the table. Dad made pasta, sauce, and steamed asparagus. He put the pasta on a large plate. Then he scooped the sauce into a bowl. Mom cut the garlic bread. She placed the pieces in a basket. Everything was ready. Mom, Dad, and Jules sat in their places.

“Mom, where’s Martin?”

“He spent the day reading in his treehouse. Please go and get him.”

Jules walked out to the treehouse. “Hey Martin! Martin are you up there? Martin!”

Martin looked down to see his sister. “Hey Jules. What’s up?”

“It’s time for dinner. We are waiting for you,” Jules said.

“Okay, I will be right there,” he answered.

Martin climbed down the ladder. He ran into the house with Jules. They washed their hands. They sat in their places. Martin put a heap of pasta on his plate. He topped it with a scoop of sauce.

Dad asked, “What did you do today?”

Jules answered, “I spent the day with Beth and Anna. Mom, did you get much painting done?”

Mom replied, “Yes, I finished the painting of the dancing dogs. Martin, did you finish your book? Why was the boy losing things?”

“Mom, I can’t tell you. One of you might like to read the book. I wouldn’t want to spoil the story. I can tell you that he didn’t exactly lose things.”

Mom smiled, “Martin, that is very thoughtful. Since you liked it so much, I would like to read the book.”

Martin thought for a moment. “The book was a mystery. It was also an adventure. I liked the boy very much. I think he would be a fun friend. There are two more books in the series. It would be great to read them all.”

Jules laughed. “I know what you mean. I loved the series about Anne of Green Gables. Hey, maybe the library has the rest of your series. We could walk over in the morning.”

Martin was excited. “Yes, let’s go first thing. I can’t wait to finish the adventure!”

This story is mostly about:

- A. a family dinner.
- B. breakfast on the moon.
- C. living in a treehouse.
- D. reading adventures.

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The story is mostly about a family dinner. Martin did read an adventure in his treehouse. That was only part of the story.

At the end of the story Martin wanted to:

- A. go to the library to find more books to read.
- B. go swimming.
- C. go to the bookstore for more books.
- D. go to dinner with his family.

Martin read the first book in a series. He wanted to read all of the books in the series. He planned to go to the library to borrow the books.

What did Martin's family have for dinner?

- A. They had pasta, salad, and bread.
- B. They had bananas, oranges, and crackers.
- C. They had tofu, salad, and rolls.
- D. They had rice, salad, and breadsticks.

We learned that Martin's family had pasta, salad, and bread.

You can guess that:

- A. Jules and Martin often go to the library.
- B. Martin will always live in a treehouse.
- C. Jules only reads books about dancing dogs.
- D. Jules was reading so she was late for dinner.

Both Jules and Martin like reading. Since they live close enough to the library to walk, they probably go there often. The dancing dogs are mentioned in the story. But they are in a painting, not a book. Martin was reading in his treehouse, not Jules.

Something to think about:

What kind of books do you like to read?

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Ghost Pirates

by Nancy Scarry

Ted was walking to school. He ran into his best friend, James.

“Hey Ted. How are you doing?” James asked.

“Good,” said Ted. After a pause, he said, “Well, not good. I have something on my mind.”

“What is it, Ted? Do you want to talk about it?”

“I had a weird dream. Everyone was a ghost pirate.” James said.

“That is weird. What were you reading last night?”

“I was reading a book about pirate ships.”

James asked, “Did you watch anything on TV?”

Ted thought a bit. “Oh, yeah. I watched a show about ghosts.”

James patted Ted on the shoulder. “Well, there you have it. Ghosts. Pirate ships. Dream.”

Ted stopped and looked at James. “But why would everyone be a ghost pirate?”

James started laughing. “Ted, maybe your dream was a smash up. The TV show. The book. Halloween is next week.”

Ted started laughing too. “James, I think you might be right. Still, it was weird. Everyone was a ghost pirate. Even Jasper! He had a scarf tied on his head. He was even wearing an eye patch!”

James was still laughing. “Jasper? Your dog was a ghost pirate too? So Ted, what are you going to be for Halloween.”

“Maybe a cowboy or a robot.”

“Not a ghost pirate?” James joked.

Ted started laughing. He laughed so hard it was hard to talk. “Nope. Not a ghost or a pirate or a ghost pirate.”

This story is mostly about:

- A. why Ted had a ghost pirate dream.
- B. playing basketball.
- C. pirate ships.
- D. Halloween costumes.

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The story is about Ted and James trying to figure out Ted's dream about ghost pirates. Playing basketball is not part of this story. Ted did read a book about pirate ships. And there was talk about Halloween costumes. The book and costumes were a small part of the story.

What were the three things in James' smash up?

- A. The TV show on ghosts, the book on pirate ships, and Halloween.
- B. The TV show on elephants, the book on cars, and Groundhog Day.
- C. The TV show on ghosts, the book on baseball, and birthdays.
- D. The TV show on snakes, the book on pirate ships, and Thanksgiving.

James' smash up contains a TV show on ghosts, a book on pirate ships, and Halloween. Ted may like watching TV shows about elephants and snakes. He may like reading books about cars and baseball. We do not know that after reading this story. Halloween is the only holiday in the story.

Jasper had:

- A. a scarf tied on his head.
- B. a bow tied to his right ear.
- C. a scarf tied around his neck.
- D. a shirt tied around his waist.

The story mentions that Jasper had a scarf tied on his head. He was also wearing an eye patch. Jasper was not wearing a bow or shirt.

You can guess that:

- A. Ted and James enjoy spending time together.
- B. Ted and James are not friends.
- C. Todd has a great sense of humor.
- D. Todd and James like to go on walks.

The story states that Ted and James are best friends. They are comfortable talking about all kinds of things. Todd is not in the story.

Something to think about:

What was the weirdest dream you ever had?

Reading for Details I

Girls' Day

by Nancy Scarry

Today was Girls' Day. Mom took Natalie and Sophie for a day of fun. They went swimming at the community pool. Natalie and Sophie raced and played.

Next they went to the bookstore. They each picked out a book. Natalie's book was on hamsters. She would like to adopt a hamster. Sophie's book was on knitting. It came with knitting needles and yarn. She would like to knit hats for gifts.

Then they went to lunch at The Flower Cafe. Natalie had a peanut butter and jam sandwich. It was shaped like a tulip. Mom had a bowl of vegetable soup. Each vegetable was shaped like a different flower. Sophie had a cheese sandwich. It was shaped like a daisy with an olive in the center. The food looked very pretty and tasted great!

After lunch, they went to the toy store. Natalie found a jump rope that played a song. She used her own money to buy it. Sophie bought a set of sandwich cutters. They could have flower-shaped sandwiches every day.

Natalie was excited to go home. She wanted to try out her new jump rope. Sophie wanted to read her new knitting book. They thanked their mom for a fun day!

This story is mostly about:

- A. spending a fun day with Mom.
- B. going to the zoo.
- C. bookstores.
- D. swimming.

Mom took Natalie and Sophie on a day of fun. They did not visit the zoo. They went swimming and to the bookstore. But that was only part of what they did.

What does Natalie want to adopt?

- A. A hamster.
- B. A bunny.
- C. A snake.
- D. A kitten.

Natalie bought a book on hamsters. She wants to adopt one. The story does not mention a bunny, snake, or kitten.

Sophie's new book comes with:

- A. knitting needles and yarn.
- B. a ball.
- C. a tulip.
- D. a daisy and yarn.

The story mentions that Sophie bought a book on knitting. It came with knitting needles and yarn. The sandwiches were shaped like a tulip and a daisy. A ball is not mentioned in the story.

Reading for Details I

You can guess that:

- A. Sophie and Natalie like Girls' Day with their mom.
- B. Sophie and Natalie like Girls' Day with their dad.
- C. Natalie likes to play outside.
- D. Sophie and Natalie like soup.

The story states Sophie and Natalie spent a fun day with their mom. Their dad was not mentioned in the story. Natalie may like to play outside. She did buy a jump rope, a toy used outside. We know from the story that Mom likes soup. We do not know if Sophie and Natalie like soup.

Something to think about:

What shape would you like for your next sandwich?

Reading for Details I

Growing and Decorating Pumpkins

by Nancy Scarry

Marcus went to the garden center with his mom. They had planned their garden. Now it was time to buy vegetable seeds. Marcus saw three kinds of pumpkin seed.

“Mom, can we grow pumpkins for Halloween?”

“Sure. That would be fun.”

Marcus looked at each packet and said, “I can’t decide which to buy. They have large ones and mini ones. Maybe I should buy the white ones.”

His mom smiled. “We could buy all three.”

“Will we have enough space?” Marcus asked.

“Sure. We will just grow a few of each.”

Their garden was planted. They waited. In a few months there were small pumpkins. One day, Marcus was showing them to Joel and Julie. They are his best friends from school. Joel mentioned, “I read that you can scratch a pumpkin. When it gets big, what you scratched looks like a scar.”

Marcus’ mom came out to pick vegetables for lunch. Marcus, Julie, and Joel told her about scarring pumpkins. Mom said, “Sounds fun. Let’s meet in the garden in the morning. Find a tool that you would like to use. And bring a sketch.”

At 9:00 am they were ready to try scratching pumpkins. Marcus used an old ballpoint pen. He drew a dancing skeleton onto a large pumpkin. The pumpkin wasn’t large yet. But it would be in about a month. Joel used a nail. He scratched, “Happy Spooky Day”. Then he added some zombies. Julie drew a face on her white pumpkin. She hoped it would look like a werewolf. Mom drew lightning bolts on six mini pumpkins. When the drawings were finished, they gently wiped them with a cloth.

They waited a week.

And another week.

And another.

Each day the kids checked on their pumpkin. After another week, all of the pumpkin leaves turned brown. That meant that it was time to pick the pumpkins. The drawings did become scars. Some of the pumpkins grew a little odd. The zombies looked funny, not frightening. One of the skeleton’s feet was much larger than the other. The werewolf looked a little like a cat. The kids loved their pumpkins. Joel and Julie thanked Marcus and his mom. Then they took their pumpkins home.

Marcus helped his mom carve out the inside of the mini pumpkins. They made metal hangers. Mom put a candle in each pumpkin. Marcus helped her hang them from the tree in the front yard. They looked like glowing orbs. Marcus put his pumpkin on the front porch steps.

Reading for Details I

Marcus looked at their pumpkins and said, “Mom, let’s grow more pumpkins next year. This was so much fun!”

This story is mostly about:

- A. growing and scarring pumpkins.
- B. growing tomatoes.
- C. making pumpkin pie.
- D. roasting pumpkin seeds.

Marcus and his mom planted pumpkins. Joel told them about scratching the pumpkins. The scratches become scars. The garden has vegetables but they are only mentioned once. You can make pumpkin pie and roast the seeds, but that is not part of the story.

Each kid scarred a pumpkin. How many pumpkins did the kids scar?

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 1
- D. 2

There are three kids in the story. They are Marcus, Joel, and Julie. Each kid scarred one pumpkin for a total of three pumpkins. Marcus’ mom scarred six mini pumpkins too. But she is not a kid.

Julie drew a:

- A. werewolf onto a white pumpkin.
- B. goblin onto a blue pumpkin.
- C. dancing skeleton onto a large pumpkin.
- D. zombie onto a white pumpkin.

Julie drew a werewolf onto a white pumpkin. Marcus drew a dancing skeleton on his pumpkin. Joel drew a zombie. None of the pumpkins had a goblin.

You can guess that:

- A. Marcus and his mom like to try new things together.
- B. Marcus and his dad like to go shopping together.
- C. Marcus and his mom like playing music together.
- D. Marcus and his mom like to play baseball together.

The story states that Marcus and his mom planned a garden. They had not planned to have pumpkins in their garden. While at the store, they decided to add pumpkins. We do not know if he likes to go shopping with his dad. Marcus and his mom garden together. They worked on the pumpkins together. We do not know if they like playing baseball or playing music together.

Something to think about:

What would you draw onto the surface of a pumpkin?

Reading for Details I

I Found a Rabbit

by Nancy Scarry

One day our neighbor came to the door. There was a rabbit in her garden. She knew that we lived with house rabbits. She asked if we had lost one. We had not. All of our rabbits were at home. Who owned the rabbit in her garden?

The rabbit was brown and white. She had large floppy ears. She was not a wild rabbit. We scooped her up and brought her home. She was clean and well fed. She must be lost. We made signs that said, "Lost Rabbit". We put them up around the neighborhood. We visited all of our neighbors. No one knew the rabbit.

After a week, we took the rabbit to the doctor. The doctor said she was healthy. We took her home and named her Emma. We introduced Emma to our rabbits Nicky, Nora, and Luke. They all got along. They ran around the house. They played hide and seek. They shared meals. They slept together. Emma found a new home.

This story is mostly about:

- A. a lost rabbit who found a new home.
- B. a lost dog who found a new home.
- C. wild rabbits.
- D. the house rabbits Nicky and Luke.

Emma is a rabbit. She is not a dog. She is not a wild rabbit. Wild rabbits are hard to catch. She was easy to catch and had been well cared for.

At the end of the story, how many rabbits lived in the house?

- A. 4
- B. 9
- C. 2
- D. 1

There are 4 rabbits living in the house at the end of the story. Their names are Nicky, Nora, Luke, and Emma.

Emma has:

- A. brown and white fur.
- B. short stubby ears.
- C. gray and white fur.
- D. ruby eyes.

The story mentions that Emma has brown and white fur. She has large floppy ears. We do not know the color of her eyes.

Reading for Details I

You can guess that:

- A. the people who live in the house really like rabbits.
- B. rabbits do not like to live with people.
- C. dogs make great pets.
- D. rabbits do not like to play together.

When the people living in the house found Emma they had three rabbits. When they could not find Emma's family they gave her a home. They took her to the doctor to make sure she was healthy. The rabbits were allowed to run and play in the house. The people living in the house probably really like rabbits.

Something to think about:

What would you do if you found a lost rabbit?

Reading for Details I

Jamie's Room Makeover

by Nancy Scarry

Jamie asked his parents, "Can I give my room a makeover?" His parents asked him to make a drawing. Jamie was prepared. "I have it right here," he said.

His drawing showed the walls painted in two colors. In one corner there was a porch swing. Dad looked up, "A swing in your room?" Jamie was ready for the question.

"Dad, a swing would be fun. I could stretch out on it and read. When I have sleepovers it could be an extra bed."

Jamie's parents approved his drawing. A list was made of everything they would need. They went off to the hardware store.

Jamie picked out paint in his two favorite colors. His parents picked out brushes and rollers. On the way to the checkout, they saw it. It was the exact swing in Jamie's drawing. It came with a full cushion. And it was on sale!

Jamie's parents looked at the swing. Then at each other. "Let's get it!" They paid for the paint, supplies, and swing. The swing was loaded in the back of their truck. Time to go home.

Dad made a quick lunch. While they ate, they talked about the makeover. First they moved everything out of Jamie's room. It was now a blank canvas. They painted the walls and ceiling. The walls were painted green. The ceiling was painted dark blue. Dad gave Jamie a small bag. Inside was a package of glow-in-the-dark stars. Dad helped Jamie glue them to the ceiling.

It was time to hang the swing. The ceiling had thick wooden beams. Mom drilled holes in one of the beams. They used large bolts to hang the swing. Dad tied the cushion to the swing. He looked at Jamie and said, "Try it."

Jamie jumped onto the swing. It was great. "It is like a swinging sofa. I love my new room!"

This story is mostly about:

- A. the makeover of Jamie's room.
- B. painting the garage.
- C. glow-in-the-dark stars.
- D. making a drawing.

The story is mostly about the makeover of Jamie's room. Jamie made a drawing. And there were glow-in-the-dark stars mentioned. Those things are only part of the story. They are not the main idea. They painted the bedroom, not the garage.

How many favorite colors does Jamie have?

- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 3
- D. 1

Reading for Details I

Early in the story, we learned that the room will have two colors of paint. Later we learn that Jamie picked paint in his two favorite colors.

Jamie's room now has:

- A. a swing and glow-in-the-dark stars on the ceiling.
- B. a bird painted on one wall.
- C. dark blue walls.
- D. glow-in-the-dark hearts on the walls.

The story states that Jamie's room has a swing and glow-in-the-dark stars on the ceiling. There was no mention of a painting of a bird. The walls were painted green. Dark blue paint was used only on the ceiling. There was no mention of glow-in-the-dark hearts.

You can guess that:

- A. Jamie knew exactly how he wanted his room to look.
- B. Jamie's room is very small.
- C. it cost a lot of money to make over Jamie's room.
- D. Jamie doesn't have any friends.

There is room for at least a bed and swing in the room, so it can't be very small. The swing was on sale and they used two cans of paint, so it didn't cost a lot of money. Jamie is planning to use the swing as a bed for sleepovers, so he must have at least one friend. He made a drawing with the colors and furniture, so he knew how he wanted his room to look.

Something to think about:

If you could make over your room, how would you do it?

Reading for Details I

My First Earthquake by Nancy Scarry

Ted and Holly were walking home from the bus stop. They were talking about school.

“Holly, do you miss your old school?”

“I miss my friends. We still text and email. It just isn’t the same as being together. The time is three hours later there.”

Ted smiled. “Have you made any new friends?”

“Lacie seems nice. And Joanna is smart and funny. I like that you are my neighbor.”

Ted laughed. “You are a fun neighbor. Want to come in for a snack? We could do homework together.”

“Sure. That would be great.”

Ted opened the door. Holly walked through. She stepped inside, but lost her balance.

“Whoa! What just happened?”

Ted became very serious. “Holly put your bag down. Take my hand.” Ted pulled her into the dining room. “Holly, get under the table.”

“Under the table? Why?”

“You lost your balance because of an earthquake. Get under the table for cover. Grab onto the legs and hold on.”

Just as he said ‘Hold on’ the room began to shake. They could hear the light over the table swinging. There was a loud banging noise. It sounded a little like a large truck. Then there was more shaking. The room seemed to move from side to side. Then up and down. It was like the funhouse at the fair. Suddenly the shaking stopped. And it became quiet.

Ted looked at Holly. “Sometimes earthquakes can cause a lot of damage. Buildings and highways can be destroyed. Earthquakes can even create islands. Where we live earthquakes aren’t too bad. We earthquake proofed our house. Things shouldn’t fall or tip over. It is a good idea to wait. The shaking may start again.”

Holly was still holding onto the table legs. “Gosh, that was scary. I read about earthquakes. I didn’t know they would be so loud. I can’t believe it. My second week in California and there is an earthquake. I’m glad that I wasn’t home alone. Thank you for helping me through my first earthquake.”

Reading for Details I

This story is mostly about:

- A. Holly's first earthquake.
- B. Ted's first birthday.
- C. Holly's first snowstorm.
- D. Ted's first earthquake.

The story is mostly about Holly's first earthquake. The story is not about snowstorms or birthdays.

At the end of the story Holly learned about:

- A. earthquakes and how to stay safe.
- B. how to keep your balance when surfing.
- C. what to eat during an earthquake.
- D. how to stay safe during a hurricane.

The best answer is that she learned about earthquakes and how to stay safe. Ted told Holly about earthquakes. He also taught her what to do to stay safe. Surfing is not a part of the story. Ted and Holly did not eat anything during the earthquake.

To be safe during the earthquake:

- A. Holly and Ted used the table for cover.
- B. Ted stood under a tree.
- C. Holly and Ted used a chair for cover.
- D. Holly used a desk for cover.

Holly and Ted used the dining room table for cover. It is not safe to stand under a tree. A chair is not sturdy or large enough for cover. A sturdy desk could be used for cover. In this story, they did not use one.

During an earthquake it is important to:

- A. be prepared and stay calm to stay safe.
- B. go out and ride your bike.
- C. be prepared, stay calm, and jump into bed.
- D. be prepared, call for help, and run into the street.

During an earthquake you should be prepared and stay calm to stay safe. You should find cover under a desk or table. Never ride your bike or run into the street during an earthquake. Jumping into bed will not keep you safe.

Something to think about:

What would you do to prepare for an earthquake?

Reading for Details I

My New Style and Routine

by Nancy Scarry

Coach Sarah blew her whistle, “Time to practice your free throw routine. Remember your routine. That means do the same thing every time. A routine gives you comfort. It helps you stay focused.” Coach showed us her routine. “I dribble the ball three times, then shoot.” She dribbled the ball three times, shot, and made the basket. “Practice shooting five free throws in a row. Pick a partner. She will rebound and bring the ball back to you. Then switch places.”

Lacie and Alice started to work together. Lacie said, “Alice, let’s see your routine.”

Alice became serious, “Lacie, I get the jitters at the foul line.” Alice dribbled the ball twice and then shot. She missed.

Lacie smiled, “Alice, that was good. Try taking a breath. Then bend your knees before you shoot.”

Alice was puzzled. “Bend my knees? Why?”

Lacie showed her what she meant. “Taking a breath will help you relax. And you don’t want to lock your knees. You are great at making baskets.”

Alice smiled, “I am pretty good at making baskets. It’s different making them in the game. When I am at the foul line, I am on my own. Everyone is watching.”

Lacie laughed. “I know what you mean. A routine will help.”

Coach blew her whistle. “Let’s line up. Everyone try out your routine.” Each girl took a turn.

“That was great. Okay, see you at the game tomorrow,” said Coach Sarah.

The next day, they were in the middle of an exciting game. The visiting team was ahead by four points. Alice had the ball. Just as she shot the ref blew her whistle. The ball whooshed through the basket. The ref shouted, “Foul. Basket counts.” The visiting team was two points ahead.

Alice walked to the foul line. She felt nervous. The ref gave her the ball. She bounced the ball twice. She took a breath. She bent her knees and shot. She made the basket. The crowd cheered. The ref handed Alice the ball again. Bounce, bounce, breath, bend, shoot. The ball whooshed through the basket. The score was tied.

The ref gave the visiting team the ball. They threw the ball in. Alice blocked the pass. She grabbed the ball. She shot. Whoosh! The clock ran out. The crowd cheered! Lacie ran over to Alice “Your routine worked! And you scored the winning points!”

This story is mostly about:

- A. The importance of a free throw routine.
- B. How to score in bowling.
- C. How to dribble a basketball.
- D. Getting the jitters.

Reading for Details I

The story was about the importance of a free throw routine. There was mention of getting the jitters. There was talk about dribbling the ball. They are minor details.

How many points did Alice score in the last minutes of the game?

- A. 6
- B. 12
- C. 1
- D. 3

Alice scored 6 points. She was fouled when making a basket (2 points). She made two free throws (2 points). Then she grabbed the ball from the visiting team. She shot and scored (2 points). That is a total of 6 points.

With Lacie's help, Alice changed her free throw routine to:

- A. Bounce, bounce, breath, bend, shoot.
- B. Laugh, jump, shoot.
- C. Bend, bend, breath, shoot.
- D. Breath, breath, bend, shoot.

Alice's new routine was bounce, bounce, breath, bend, shoot.

You can guess that routines:

- A. can help you become more successful.
- B. won't work for most people.
- C. can't help you learn new things.
- D. don't need hard work.

Practicing routines can help you become more successful. Routines are a way to prepare you. In this story, they spent a lot of time practicing their routine. It was fun but it was hard work.

Something to think about:

Can you think of anything that you do where a routine would help?

Reading for Details I

No School
by Nancy Scarry

“Rise and Shine! Time to get up.” Dad pulled open the curtains. “Breakfast is ready. I made banana waffles with blueberry syrup.”

Liam rolled over. He covered his head with his pillow. “Five more minutes.”

Drew bounded out of bed. He wrapped himself in his favorite robe. It was the one with robots on the pockets. He slid into his slippers. The whole time saying over and over, “Waffles. I love waffles.”

Drew looked out the kitchen window. “Dad, what happened? Everything is covered with ice.”

Dad looked out of the window. He put his hand on Drew’s shoulder. “It rained during the night. The temperature on the ground was below freezing. When the rain fell it froze to everything it touched.”

“Dad, there are icicles hanging from the trees. Some are so long they touch the ground! The yard is full of ice sculptures!”

Dad pointed to the bird feeder on the window sill. “We need to clean the ice off of the bird feeder. The birds will be very hungry today. Let’s make them peanut butter treats.”

“But Dad this is Thursday. We have school. We don’t have time.”

“Sorry, I forgot to tell you. Your school texted. School is closed today.”

“No school? Are you going to work?”

“Work was canceled. We can spend the whole day together. Where is your brother? Liam, time to get up.”

Liam walked in wearing a wool sweater over his pajamas. “What’s going on?”

Drew announced, “Dad said there is no school today!”

Liam put a waffle on his plate. He was about to take a bite. “No school? Why?”

Drew pointed to the window, “Look outside and you’ll see. There is ice all over everything!”

Liam looked out the window. “Wow! That’s great. After breakfast, can we go outside?”

Dad gave it some thought. “It will probably be too slippery. We should stay inside. But we could use a loaf of bread for lunch.”

Dad and the boys sat down to finish breakfast.

Drew stopped in mid bite, “Dad, I have a great idea. We could put on ice skates. And skate to the market!”

Reading for Details I

This story is mostly about:

- A. An ice storm that caused school and work to be canceled.
- B. April showers and Spring flowers.
- C. Making peanut butter treats.
- D. Eating waffles.

The story is about a day off because of an ice storm. Peanut butter treats and waffles are mentioned.

What is the first thing Drew did?

- A. He bounded out of bed, then put on his robe and slippers.
- B. He put on shorts and a T-shirt.
- C. He put on his coat and ice skates.
- D. He put on a wool sweater and slippers.

The best answer is Drew bounded out of bed, then put on a robe and slippers. Liam was wearing a wool sweater over his pajamas. He never put on ice skates. He suggested that they put them on and skate to the market.

What did Drew, Liam, and Dad have for breakfast?

- A. They had banana waffles with blueberry syrup.
- B. They had brownies and hot chocolate.
- C. They had pancakes with banana slices.
- D. They had blueberry pancakes with syrup.

They had banana waffles with blueberry syrup. They did not have pancakes.

You can guess that Drew would be a fun friend because:

- A. he is cheerful and has great ideas.
- B. he wears awesome boots.
- C. he loves to sleep in.
- D. he would rather go to school than take the day off.

He bounds out of bed ready for the day. He thinks the yard is full of ice sculptures. He has the idea to wear ice skates to the market. We can guess that Drew is cheerful and has great ideas. Liam is the one who slept in.

Something to think about:

How would you spend the day if school was canceled?

Reading for Details I

Not a Monarch

by Nancy Scarry

Lucy saw a beautiful orange and black butterfly in the garden. She took a photo of it. She thought it was a monarch butterfly. She showed the photo to her neighbor Milt. He told her that it was a passion butterfly. She asked Milt, "How do you know that it isn't a monarch?" He told her that a monarch's wings are edged in black. The wings of the butterfly in her photo were mostly orange. There were some white spots edged in black.

Milt told Lucy more about butterflies. "Monarch and passion butterflies do not like the same trees and plants. The caterpillar of the passion butterfly is orange and black. It has rows of black spikes. It loves to eat the leaves of the passion vine."

Lucy thought about what he said. There are passion vines growing in her courtyard. She took a close look at one of the vines. There was an orange and black caterpillar. And it had rows of black spikes! Then she saw another, and another. How had she missed seeing them before?

She noticed there were lots of dead leaves on the vine. To her surprise, they were not all leaves. One of them started to move. She watched as a passion butterfly broke free from its chrysalis.

This story is mostly about:

- A. two kinds of butterflies.
- B. two kinds of birds.
- C. how to catch caterpillars.
- D. how to catch butterflies.

We learned how to tell a monarch from a passion butterfly. We also learned what the passion butterfly caterpillars eat.

How many colors are on the wings of a passion butterfly?

- A. 3
- B. 7
- C. 2
- D. 1

The wings are mostly orange with white spots and some black around the spots.

The passion butterfly caterpillar likes to eat:

- A. the leaves of the passion vine.
- B. monarch butterflies.
- C. apples.
- D. vegetables.

We learned in the story that the passion butterfly caterpillar eats leaves of the passion vine. The story does not tell us if the passion butterfly will eat fruit and vegetables.

Reading for Details I

You can guess that:

- A. if you want to attract butterflies, you should plant passion vines.
- B. caterpillars don't need to eat.
- C. the spikes on the caterpillar are just for show.
- D. Lucy is afraid of bugs.

The story tells us that the passion butterfly caterpillars eat leaves of the passion vine. The spikes on the caterpillar protect and help to hide it. Lucy is very interested in caterpillars, so she probably isn't afraid of bugs.

Something to think about:

Would you mind having holes in the leaves of your plants if you could have lots of butterflies?

Reading for Details I

Our First Snowman

by Nancy Scarry

It was a warm and sunny day in California. The first day of winter break. Mom, Shelly and I piled into the car. In three days, we would be in Ohio. We were going to visit Grandpa Joe. He lives in an old farm house. We will stay for two weeks. I hope that it snows. Shelly and I have never played in the snow.

The sun was setting when we arrived. It was cold. But no snow yet. We visited with Grandpa Joe. He had stew and fresh bread ready. I love fresh bread. Shelly and I cleared the table. We had ginger cookies for dessert. At 9:00 Mom said it was time for bed. Still no snow.

My room had a large window. I could see giant fir trees. Mom stopped by, "Good night, Taylor." I asked her when it would snow. She said, "Maybe tomorrow." It didn't. We spent the day helping Grandpa Joe with chores. We liked feeding the cows, horses, and sheep. Shelly liked the sheep best. It was fun to pet them. Their wool was long and fluffy. But, still no snow.

The next morning, I looked out the window. The trees and the yard were white. Snow was everywhere! And it was still snowing. Shelly and I bundled up and ran outside. We ran around catching snowflakes. Shelly caught one on her tongue. Her eyelashes were covered with snowflakes. She laughed and fell into the snow. I scooped up a handful of snow. It was soft and cold. Shelly and I made snowballs. We threw them at each other. We laughed a lot.

Shelly wanted to make a snowman. Her favorite book is about a flying snowman. We rolled a ball, then another, and another. I helped Shelly stack the balls. The snowman was as tall as her!

We ran inside to tell Grandpa Joe and Mom. They came outside to see our snowman. Mom said, "It is a wonderful snowman. What is he missing?" Grandpa Joe dashed inside the house. He came out carrying an old tin. It was filled with buttons. We used two large blue buttons for his eyes. And six small pink and red ones for his mouth. His smile made him look cheerful.

Grandpa Joe looked at the snowman. He sighed and walked to the barn. A few minutes later, he came back. He had an old cowboy hat. Grandpa Joe put the cowboy hat on the snowman. We all laughed. Shelly named her snowman Hank. Mom said, "Hank is a perfect name for a cowboy snowman."

This story is mostly about:

- A. playing in the snow for the first time.
- B. playing at the beach.
- C. doing chores on the farm.
- D. making snowballs.

The story is about Shelly and Taylor playing in the snow and for the first time. The kids may have played at the beach. We do not know that from this story. The kids did help their grandfather with farm chores. They also made snowballs. Mostly, the story is about waiting for the first snow. Then playing in it.

Reading for Details I

How many buttons are used to make the snowman's mouth?

- A. 6
- B. 3
- C. 5
- D. 2

The story states that the kids used six small pink and red buttons for the mouth. The also used two large blue buttons for his eyes.

The snowman is wearing a:

- A. cowboy hat.
- B. a scarf.
- C. baseball hat.
- D. a beanie.

The snowman is wearing an old cowboy hat. He is not wearing a scarf. No other hats are mentioned.

You can guess that:

- A. Taylor and Shelly like spending time together.
- B. Shelly's dad makes good soup.
- C. Shelly likes all animals.
- D. Taylor and Shelly do not like playing in the snow.

In the story, Taylor and Shelly spend time together. They did chores in the house and barn. They had a great time playing together. Shelly's dad might make good soup. We do not know that from the story. Shelly likes the animals on the farm. We do not know if she likes all animals. Taylor and Shelly loved playing in the snow together. They probably like spending time together.

Something to think about:

What kind of snowman would you make?

Reading for Details I

Our Tornado Adventure

by Nancy Scarry

Elliot and his brothers were playing in the backyard. Mom called, “Boys! Time to come in.” Suddenly it became dark and quiet. Far away, high in the sky, there was something black. It looked like it was spinning.

“That isn’t an airplane,” Elliot said. Mom ran into the yard to fetch us. She told us to hurry inside to the basement. Elliot said, “I know what is happening. It’s a tornado.” We all looked at each other and screamed, “Run!” The wind started to blow. There was a loud deep noise.

We made it inside the house just as the rain started. It wasn’t raindrops. They were small icy snowballs. We dashed to the basement. Mom calmly told us to stay away from the windows. She said the strong wind can break the glass. She used pieces of wood to cover them. As she covered them, we saw the soccer net fly by. It was followed by Elliot’s jacket.

Elliot turned on the lights and saw Higgles. She is his bunny. She was exploring the basement. She stopped to sit on a shelf. There were several jugs of water. One shelf had a box marked, “For Emergency” and cans of food. There is even a box marked “Higgles”. It has hay, pellets, and her raisin treats.

The basement is used for storage. It is where we keep our winter clothes and extra blankets. There is also a shelf that has board games and some old toys. We used some of the blankets to make a tent. We sat inside, ate a snack, and played a game. Dad called from work. We told him that we were safe inside our tent.

This story is mostly about:

- A. how to stay safe during a tornado.
- B. playing in the rain.
- C. making a tent out of cardboard boxes.
- D. Higgles the hamster.

The story is about how to stay safe during a tornado. They made it inside just as the rain started. The rain was like icy snowballs. That would not be a fun to play in. They used blankets to make a tent, not boxes. Higgles is a bunny, not a hamster.

What did the kids see far away, high in the sky?

- A. They saw something black and spinning.
- B. They saw a bunch of balloons.
- C. They saw an airplane.
- D. They saw a soccer net.

They saw something black and spinning. It was a tornado. There was no mention of balloons in the story. The kids knew that it could not be an airplane. When they were in the basement they did see the soccer net fly by. The soccer net wasn’t far away or high in the sky.

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Some of the boxes were marked:

- A. For Emergency.
- B. Soup and Candy.
- C. Elliot and Higgles.
- D. For Dad.

The story mentions there are two marked boxes. One box is marked, "For Emergency". The other box is marked, "Higgles". There is food on the shelves. It is not in marked boxes. There isn't mention of a box marked with Elliot or Dad.

You can guess that:

- A. Elliot's family was prepared for an emergency.
- B. Elliot's family likes to eat in the kitchen.
- C. Elliot's family lives in a basement.
- D. Elliot's family does not like to play games.

Elliot's family stayed in the basement during the tornado. There was a box with emergency supplies. There was water, food, blankets, clothes, and games. They even had food and treats for their bunny. Elliot's family may like to eat in the kitchen. In the story they ate a snack in the tent in the basement. Elliot's family does not live in the basement. They were staying there during the tornado. Elliot's family has a shelf of board games. They were playing a game in their tent.

Something to think about:

What would you do to prepare for weather emergencies?

Reading for Details I

Surfing the Dunes by Nancy Scarry

Casey and Jules went to visit Auntie Jane. She is their favorite aunt. She loves hiking, games, and adventure. When they visit, she always has fun things planned.

At breakfast, Auntie Jane said she had an idea. "Let's ride our bikes to the beach. We can pack a lunch. And we need to take some cardboard."

Casey looked puzzled. "Why do we need to take cardboard?"

"You'll see," answered Auntie Jane.

They packed a lunch of sandwiches, carrots, and apples. And each filled their water bottles. Everything was put in their backpacks. They put on sunscreen and their bicycle helmets.

"Now for the cardboard. We will need three pieces." Auntie Jane grabbed the cardboard.

Jules helped her tie it to her bike. "Auntie Jane, why are we taking cardboard to the beach?"

"You'll see." She hopped on her bike. "Ready to go?"

"Ready," answered Casey and Jules.

It was a great day for a bike ride. It was sunny and warm. They arrived at a woods. Auntie Jane smiled and said, "Time for a little bit of a hike. There is a hiking trail to the beach."

They strapped on their backpacks. Auntie Jane carried the cardboard. They hiked through the woods. When they reached the end of the trail they saw a mountain of sand. Auntie Jane looked at us. "This is the Surfing Dunes. It is 100 feet high."

Jules and Casey looked at each other. Then at Auntie Jane. They looked at the mountain of sand. "Surfing Dunes?"

"Yep, Surfing Dunes. That is why we brought the cardboard. We are going to hike to the top. Stand on the cardboard and surf down. It is soooooo much fun!"

Casey and Jules couldn't wait. "Let's go!" They took off their backpacks. Grabbed a piece of cardboard. Then started to hike up the mountain.

Halfway up Jules stopped. "Auntie Jane, my shoes are full of sand."

Casey stopped. "So are mine." He took off his shoes. He tipped them over and poured out the sand.

Jules giggled, "How did your shoes fit with all of that sand?"

Auntie Jane laughed, "Next time, let's leave our shoes at the bottom."

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They finally made it to the top. They could see the ocean on one side. The woods were on the other side.

Auntie Jane had some tips. “The most important thing is to have fun. If you fall off of your cardboard you won’t be hurt. The sand is very soft. You can stand and surf. You can sit like on a sled. Or you can go down on your tummy. We can do them all! Questions? No? Okay. Ready, Set, Go!”

They jumped on their cardboard and pushed off. It felt like they were flying! When they got to the bottom, they were all smiling. They looked at each other, “Let’s go again!”

This story is mostly about:

- A. playing on a sand dune.
- B. playing in the snow.
- C. going hiking.
- D. riding bikes.

The story is mostly about Casey, Jules, and Auntie Jane playing on a sand dune. They would probably like playing in the snow. We do not know that from the story. Casey, Jules, and Auntie Jane do like hiking and riding bikes. That is only part of the story.

At the end of the story Casey and Jules had seen:

- A. the woods, the ocean, and a sand dune.
- B. the river, a bridge, and a boat.
- C. the woods, a deer, and an owl.
- D. the ocean, a beach, and an otter.

Casey and Jules walked through the woods. They saw the sand dune. When they were on top of the sand dune, they saw the ocean and the woods. They did not see a river, bridge, boat or any animals.

What did Casey, Jules, and Auntie Jane take to the beach?

- A. They each took lunch, water, and a piece of cardboard.
- B. They each took a chocolate bar, water, and a sled.
- C. They each took sunscreen, a sled, and gloves.
- D. They each took lunch, juice, and a sled.

They took lunch, water and cardboard. They did not take chocolate, juice, gloves, or a sled.

You can guess that Casey, Jules, and Auntie Jane:

- A. would like snowboarding.
- B. would not like to play in the snow.
- C. would like to play music together.
- D. do not like exercise.

They like dune surfing and playing on the sand dune. They would probably like snowboarding if they like the cold. They rode bikes, hiked, and dune surfed. These are all kinds of exercise. We do not know if they like playing music together.

Something to think about:

What would you do if you could play on a sand dune?

Reading for Details I

Tadpoles and Frogs by Nancy Scarry

Andy noticed something moving in a puddle. Tadpoles? Loads of tadpoles! It was a sunny day and the puddle was drying up. She was worried the tadpoles might die.

She told her brother James about the tadpoles. He grabbed a plastic bin from the garage. They dashed to the puddle. James scooped up some of the water. Then he scooped up the tadpoles and some green goop. The green goop was algae.

They knew very little about tadpoles. So they found one of Mom's science books. They learned that clean water is important. They filled clean buckets with water. Then they set them outside next to the bin. The chlorine evaporated from the water overnight.

The book said that tadpoles often eat algae and other small plants. Frogs do not eat plants. They eat bugs. Some larger frogs even eat small animals! They guessed that tadpole and frog food would be best. They walked to the pet store. The store owner told them which food to buy.

The bin worked great for the tadpoles. They swam around. Sometimes they rested on the bottom. After a few weeks the tadpoles grew short legs. They began to look like small frogs with tails. Andy and James put some clean rocks in the bin. The tadpoles climbed onto the rocks to rest. Soon their tails were gone. One day a frog perched on the edge of the bin. It had bright green spots. The next day it was in the garden. A few days later two frogs left the bin. By the weekend they were all gone.

Last night Andy and James were helping Dad in the garden. They stopped when they heard croaking. Some of the frogs made a home in their garden.

This story is mostly about:

- A. finding and caring for tadpoles.
- B. caring for an alligator.
- C. the water frogs that live in.
- D. James and his brother.

The story is about finding and caring for tadpoles. Alligators are not a part of the story. The story also talks about the best kind of water for tadpoles. James does not have a brother. He has a sister named Andy.

Tadpoles like to eat:

- A. plants.
- B. music.
- C. small animals.
- D. bugs.

We learn from the story that tadpoles eat plants. Algae is a kind of plant. Music is nice to listen to, but not to eat. The story does say some frogs eat bugs and small animals. Tadpoles do not.

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The first frog that was perched on the edge of the bin:

- A. had bright green spots.
- B. had bright red spots.
- C. went to live in the woods.
- D. went to live at the library.

The story mentions that the frog had bright green spots. The frog does not have red spots. The frog hopped into the garden. We do not know if it stayed in the garden. We do not know if it lives in the woods or the library.

You can guess that:

- A. you can learn a lot from helping tadpoles become frogs.
- B. snakes live in the garden.
- C. books are not a great place to learn things.
- D. frogs do not live in gardens.

Andy and James learned about the life cycle of frogs. They learned the importance of clean water and what to feed tadpoles and frogs.

Something to think about:

What would you do if you found a puddle full of tadpoles?

Reading for Details I

The Apple Festival

by Nancy Scarry

Mom was standing in front of the stove. “I am making apple pancakes for breakfast. Can you guess why?”

Martin and Jules looked at each other. Together they said, “Apple Festival! Can we go?”

“Okay. Would you like to watch the parade? It goes through downtown and ends at the orchard.”

“Yes,” said Martin and Jules together.

Mom, Martin, and Jules watched the parade. Martin and Jules caught candy. Martin caught a necklace. The necklace had beads that were little apples, leaves, and bees. The last float went by. The crowd followed the parade to the Sunshine Apple Festival.

The festival had many kinds of booths. There was an information booth. It had information and books about the history of apples. Martin bought a book about the history of apples in the United States. Another booth had apple trees in small pots. Mom bought a Gala apple tree for their garden.

Martin liked playing games. His favorite was the apple toss. He did not toss real apples. They were made out of felt. He won a plushy dog that he gave to his mom. Jules loved crafts. She saw a clay mug with a bird handle. She used some of her allowance to buy it.

Mom and the kids stopped at all of the booths. After a few hours, they were hungry. They took a hayride to the food court. The food court was set up in an octagon. Each section had the name of an apple. Jules’ favorite was Granny Smith. Every time Martin said, “Granny Smith” it gave her the giggles. Mom, Martin, and Jules ordered apple burgers. They shared a large order of apple chips. The chips were crunchy like potato chips. But they were sweet.

After they finished lunch, Mom and the kids checked out the dessert booths. There was apple everything. There was ice cream, yogurt, fudge, cookies, muffins, cake, pie, and caramel apples. They bought sliced caramel apples for dessert. Mom also bought a jug of apple cider to take home. They loved hot apple cider with cinnamon sticks.

Martin noticed a sign that read U-Pick Apples. He asked Mom if they could pick apples. Mom looked at her watch. “We need to be home soon. Let’s take the corn maze back. We can pick apples another day.”

Jules grabbed Martin’s hand, “Follow me,” she said. They dashed through the corn maze.

When they walked home Mom asked, “What was your favorite part of the Apple Festival?”

Jules said the hayride and her new mug. Martin liked the corn maze and the games.

Martin asked, “Mom, what was your favorite part?”

Mom hugged Jules and Martin and said, “Spending the day with you.”

Reading for Details I

This story is mostly about:

- A. spending the day at the Apple Festival.
- B. spending the week at the beach.
- C. spending the day watching the Apple Parade.
- D. spending the day on a hayride.

The story is about Mom, Martin, and Jules' day at the Apple Festival. They did watch the parade and had a hayride. They are only part of the story. Mom and the kids might like spending a week at the beach. We do not know that from the story.

At the end of the story, what did Mom, Martin, and Jules take home?

- A. They left with a plushy dog, a book, a Gala apple tree, a mug, and a jug of cider.
- B. They left with a bird, an orange tree, and a bottle of orange juice.
- C. They left with a plushy dog, a book, an orange tree, and a bottle of orange juice.
- D. They left with a plushy dog, a book, an orange tree, a plate, and a jug of cider.

The left with a plushy dog, a book about apples grown in the United States, a Gala apple tree in a small pot, a mug with a bird handle, and a jug of cider. The story is about their day at the Apple Festival. Orange trees and orange juice are not a part of the story.

They did not leave with a bird. But, Jules mug does have a bird handle. There is no mention of a plate.

For desert, there was apple:

- A. ice cream, cookies, muffins, cake, and pie.
- B. pizza, pasta, hotdogs, casserole, cheese.
- C. ice cream, yogurt, muffins, pie, and pizza.
- D. muffins, cake, pie, caramel apples, and pasta.

There was ice cream, yogurt, fudge, cookies, muffins, cake, pie, and caramel apples. Mom and the kids had apple burgers, chips, and sliced caramel apples. There was no mention of pizza, pasta, hotdogs, casserole or cheese.

You can guess that:

- A. Martin and Jules would have fun at other kinds of festivals.
- B. Martin and Jules do not like fairs and festivals.
- C. Martin and Jules do not like spending time together.
- D. Martin and Jules would not like to visit craft museums.

Martin and Jules liked the activities and food at the Apple Festival. Most festivals have activities for kids. So Martin and Jules would probably like other festivals.

Martin and Jules clearly like to spend time together. They dashed through the corn maze together. Martin bought a book about the history of apples grown in the United States.

Martin and Jules have an interest in history and crafts. They probably would like visiting a craft museum.

Something to think about:

What is your favorite apple treat?

Reading for Details I

The Full Moon and the Opossum by Nancy Scarry

Tonight there will be a full moon. It is cloudy, so it may be hard to see it. There is rain. Not a shower. Just a drizzle. It looks like the air is weeping. I wait and wait for the clouds to clear. I really want to see the moon.

I see a dark shape moving in the garden. I can't quite make it out. It is an animal. Is it the neighbor's cat? Suddenly the clouds clear. The animal turns to look at me. Its white face seems to glow. It's an opossum! Its fur is wet from the rain. But it doesn't seem to mind. And it is eating an avocado. It watches me as it eats. It does not seem to care that I am watching. It sniffs the air and moves on. It nibbles an apple. Then it wanders over to the strawberry patch. One, and then another, and another berry disappear. Did it just have a three course dinner?

When it finishes the third strawberry, I notice two things. The fur around its mouth is red. It was stained from the strawberries. And it knew its way around the garden. It had been in the garden before. I had not seen it until tonight. I had wondered about the half-eaten fruit. I thought it might be the blue jays, mocking birds, and ravens that visit our garden. Now I knew. It wasn't the birds.

The opossum sniffs the air once more. Then it wanders through the break in the garden wall. I wonder if the opossum lives alone. Tomorrow night I am going to be on watch. Maybe there is a family!

This story is mostly about:

- A. watching an opossum eating in the garden.
- B. watching a giraffe eating in the garden.
- C. snakes in the garden.
- D. birds in the garden.

The story is mostly about watching an opossum having dinner. There is a mention of birds in the garden. They are not the main idea. Snakes and giraffes are not in the story.

At the end of the story, how many different things had the opossum eaten?

- A. 3
- B. 6
- C. 1
- D. 2

The opossum had a three course dinner. He ate an avocado, an apple, and strawberries.

The opossum's fur was stained:

- A. red from eating strawberries.
- B. blue from eating blueberries.
- C. red from eating an apple.
- D. green from eating an avocado.

The story states that the opossum's fur was stained red from eating strawberries. It did eat an avocado and some apple, but they did not stain its fur. Blueberries are not mentioned in the story.

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You can guess that:

- A. an opossum would eat blueberries and cherries.
- B. opossums only come out when the moon is full.
- C. opossums won't go out in the rain.
- D. opossums can't see in the dark.

The story takes place at night in the rain. Clearly, opossums can see at night and go out in the rain. They come out to eat every night. Since it ate three kinds of fruit, it probably would like blueberries and cherries too.

Something to think about:

What other kinds of animals might visit this garden in search of food?

Reading for Details I

The Moose at the Market

by Nancy Scarry

Mom picked me up after school and asked, “Ted, did you have a good day?”

“Yes, we had music class. We learned a new song. Oh, and lunch was great! Thanks, I love your pizza rolls.”

“You’re welcome. I need to stop by the market.”

“Can we buy some popcorn?”

“Sure.”

They drove to the market. Mom parked the car. Ted grabbed their canvas shopping bags. He put them in a shopping cart and pushed it into the market.

Ted followed his mom around the store. They were nearly finished shopping when Mom asked, “Ted would you go grab some apples?”

“Sure.”

Ted walked around the corner. “What? What is that? No, it can’t be.”

A moose was standing in front of the market doors. The doors opened. The moose walked in. He walked past Ted. Then he walked straight to the produce department. He wasn’t browsing. He seemed to know where he was going. He walked to the organic section. He ate dandelion greens. Then he moved on to kale and chard. He ate a stalk of celery. Then he ate two bunches of carrots and the tops. He ate a bunch of broccoli. He moved to the fruit. He ate a pear. He followed it with five apples.

When the moose finished eating, he walked through the checkout. The clerk was shocked. She could only say, “Paper or plastic?” The moose nodded to her. Then he walked out the front door.

Mom came up behind Ted. “Did you grab some apples?”

Ted looked at her and smiled. “Mom, you aren’t going to believe it. I just saw a moose walk in the front door. He walked right past me. Then he had a dinner of greens, broccoli, celery, a pear, and apples. After he finished dinner, he walked through the checkout. Then he walked out the front door.”

Mom laughed, “He ate dinner in the market?”

“Yep, then walked right out the front door. Do you still want apples?”

This story is mostly about:

- A. a moose having dinner at the market.
- B. a mouse eating cheese.
- C. a moose learning a new song.
- D. a moose eating pizza rolls.

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The story is about Ted watching a moose having dinner at the market. There wasn't any mention of a mouse eating cheese. Ted learned a new song and ate pizza rolls. The moose did not eat pizza rolls.

At the end of the story, the moose had eaten:

- A. dandelion greens, carrots, and apples.
- B. a veggie burger, fries, and applesauce.
- C. dandelion greens, lettuce, and tomatoes.
- D. dandelion greens, a pear, apples, and a pickle.

The moose ate dandelion greens, kale, chard, a stalk of celery, two bunches of carrots and the tops, a bunch of broccoli, a pear, and five apples.

He did not eat a veggie burger, fries, and applesauce. There was no mention of the moose eating lettuce, tomatoes, or a pickle.

At the end of the story what did the moose do?

- A. He walked out the front door.
- B. He winked at Ted.
- C. He walked out of the back door.
- D. He walked out the side door.

The moose walked through the checkout. He nodded to the clerk. Then he walked out the front door. There is no mention on the story that the moose winked at Ted.

You can guess that:

- A. the moose often eats dinner in the market.
- B. the moose likes pasta.
- C. the moose does not like fruits and vegetables.
- D. when the market is out of apples, it is because a moose ate them.

The moose had probably been to the market before. It knew exactly where to go. The moose must like vegetables and fruit because that is what it chose to eat.

Something to think about:

What would you do if you saw a moose in the market?

Reading for Details I

Thunder and Lightning by Nancy Scarry

Martin and Jules were visiting their cousins in Maryland. They were outside playing soccer. The sky began to fill with dark clouds. It was like night fell. But how could it be so dark? It wasn't even noon.

Liam and Drew knew what was happening. Liam looked up and said, "A storm is brewing. We need to get inside." He picked up the soccer ball and headed for the house. Drew, Martin, and Jules followed him.

Just as they opened the door there was a "Crack, Boom, Bang!"

Jules looked at Liam, "Was that thunder?"

There was a bolt of lightning and the sky lit up. Drew started counting, "1 Mississippi, 2 Mississippi, 3 Mississippi, 4 Mississippi, 5 Mississippi, 6 Mississippi, 7 Mississippi, 8 Mississippi, 9 Mississippi, 10 Mississippi."

"Crack, Boom, Bang!"

Martin couldn't believe it. "That was like fireworks on the 4th of July. It was very cool. Why were you counting?"

Drew looked at Martin and Jules. "You count to find out how far away the lightning is."

Jules was a little bit nervous, "What do you mean?"

Liam explained, "When you see the lightning start counting. Stop when you hear the thunder. Then divide that number by 5. The number you get tells you how far away the storm is."

Martin looked surprised, "The number of miles? You really can know how many miles?"

Liam said, "Yep."

Martin had not heard this before. "Wow that is very cool. You counted to 10 Mississippi. When you divide 10 by 5, you get two. That is two miles. That is pretty close. Has it ever been closer?"

Liam smiled, "Yep. Once I only counted to 2. The lightning struck a tree at the Evans' farm."

Drew asked, "Did it hurt the tree?"

"The tree split down the middle. It is still in the middle of the field. We can go look at it after the storm."

Martin was very interested. "Have you seen any other damage from lightning?"

Liam told them the story. "The old church on the hill was hit. Lightning hit the steeple. The roof was damaged. It was kind of funny too. The bell started ringing."

Jules was calm now. "How long do you think the storm will last?"

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Liam and Drew shrugged their shoulders. Drew said, “Don’t know. But we should stay inside until we’re sure it is over. Usually we wait at least an hour after the last lightning flash.”

There was another rumble and a boom.

This story is mostly about:

- A. thunder and lightning.
- B. snow and ice.
- C. thunder and rain.
- D. lightning and snow.

The story is mostly about thunder and lightning. The story does not mention snow, ice, or rain.

Two things Liam said were damaged from lightning were:

- A. a tree and the old church steeple.
- B. a car and a boat.
- C. a tree and a bridge.
- D. a mailbox and the old church steeple.

The two things damaged by lightning were a tree and the steeple on the old church. We do not know if a car, boat, or bridge were damaged.

How can you tell how far away lightning is?

- A. Start counting when you see lightning. Stop when you hear thunder. Divide that number by 5.
- B. Listen for a chirping cricket. Each chirp equals 1 mile.
- C. Start clapping your hands after the last thunder boom. Each clap is a mile.
- D. Start counting after last the thunder boom. The last number you say will be the number of miles.

To find out how far away lightning is, start to count after you see lightning. Stop when you hear thunder. Divide the last number you said by 5. The result will be the number of miles away that lightning is. Counting the number of cricket chirps or the number of times you clap your hands will not give you the correct answer.

It is important to know about the:

- A. weather where you live and where you are visiting.
- B. tide and currents where you live.
- C. weather in your hometown.
- D. weather in other countries.

Knowing about the weather where you live and where you are visiting will keep you safe. Knowing about tide and currents is important if you plan a trip to the beach. It is not part of this story. Knowing about the weather of other countries would be important if you are visiting or studying them for school.

Something to think about:

What would you do if you heard thunder boom?