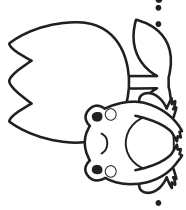
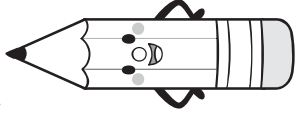


# Mister Green Thumbs



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



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## Short Answer Questions

1. Why does Dylan stare at Mr. Finch's hands?

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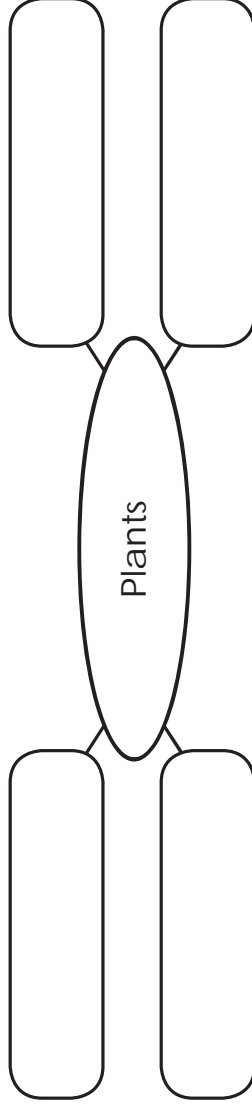
2. Why does Dylan feel silly at the end of the story?

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## About Plants

In the boxes, write the names of four different kinds of plants.



"This is Mr. Finch. He's a real 'green thumb'. He's going to teach us about plants," the teacher explained to the class.

The class listened closely as Mr. Finch explained the different parts of a plant. But one student was not listening to a word Mr. Finch was saying. This student was named Dylan. He had been staring at Mr. Finch's hands the whole time. Suddenly, Dylan got up and stood in front of the class.

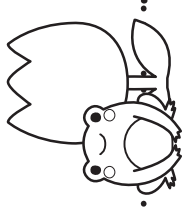
"They're not green!" Dylan declared, "His thumbs aren't green at all!"

The teacher shook his head. "Dylan, of course Mr. Finch doesn't really have green thumbs! A 'green thumb' is what we call someone who is very good at taking care of plants. Please apologize to Mr. Finch and sit back down!"

The other students in the class started to giggle, making Dylan feel very silly.

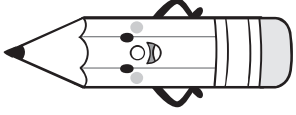
"I'm sorry I interrupted you, Mr. Finch," Dylan began. "It would be neat if you really did have green thumbs, but I guess the ones you have are OK too!"

# Joey Flies A Kite



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Fill in the Blank

1. Joey's favorite thing to do was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Joey thought the \_\_\_\_\_ was pretty cool, but he was too shy to say so. He nodded instead.
3. As he packed up his kite, he smiled at the thought of how fun it would be to fly his kite with his \_\_\_\_\_ again.

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. How is Chuck described?
  - a. He is tall with freckles.
  - b. He is short with blond hair.
  - c. He is chubby and wears glasses.
2. What colors is Chuck's kite?
  - a. Green and blue.
  - b. Red and gold.
  - c. Yellow and white.
3. When are Chuck and Joey going to meet again?
  - a. The next day.
  - b. The next weekend.
  - c. In three weeks.

Joey's favorite thing to do was fly his kite. He was a very shy boy and didn't have any friends to play with. Flying a kite was something fun he could do by himself.

"That's a nice kite," a tall boy with freckles said to Joey. Joey smiled.

"Do you like my kite?" the tall boy asked. His kite was gold and red. Joey thought the gold and red kite was pretty cool, but he was too shy to say so. He nodded instead.

For the next hour, the two boys flew their kites side by side. Joey didn't say anything, but he had fun listening to the tall boy talk and talk.

"Want to meet here next weekend at the same time?" the tall boy asked. Joey nodded.

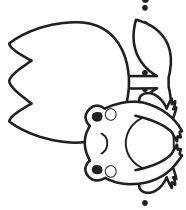
"Hey, what's your name?" the tall boy asked.

"J-Joey," Joey answered.

"I'm Chuck. See you next time, Joey!" Chuck waved goodbye before leaving.

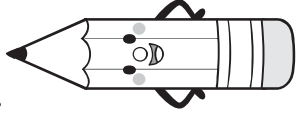
Joey waved back. As he packed up his kite, he smiled at the thought of how fun it would be to fly his kite with his new friend again.

# Lily Pad Pond



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Fill in the Blank

1. "This is \_\_\_\_\_ . Isn't it beautiful?" Mrs. Dragonfly asked.
2. "There are no \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ around and I haven't seen an \_\_\_\_\_ in these parts for well over three seasons."
3. "Welcome to Lily Pad Pond! You will \_\_\_\_\_ it here!"

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does Mrs. Dragonfly say can be found at Lily Pad Pond?
  - a. Pollution.
  - b. Owls.
  - c. The juiciest bugs.
2. What does not live near the pond?
  - a. Humans.
  - b. Bugs.
  - c. Fish.
3. Who is hopping over to have a look at the pond in the afternoon?
  - a. The Eagles.
  - b. The Snakes.
  - c. The Toads.

"This is Lily Pad Pond. Isn't it beautiful?" Mrs. Dragonfly asked.

Mr. and Mrs. Frog looked around the pond.

"Yes. I can see our babies growing up here," Mr. Frog said.

"And you should know that this pond has the juiciest bugs around! Also, this pond is very clean. There is no pollution at all! Care to go for a swim to test it out?"

Mrs. Frog smiled but shook her head. "What about predators?" she asked.

"There are no humans or big dogs around and I haven't seen an owl in these parts for well over three seasons," Mrs. Dragonfly told them.

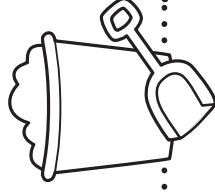
"It is a very nice pond," Mrs. Frog said.

"You have to decide soon, though! The Toad family will be hopping over to have a look this afternoon. This pond will not be empty for long!" Mrs. Dragonfly said, flying left and right.

"Okay, we'll take it! The Frogs said.

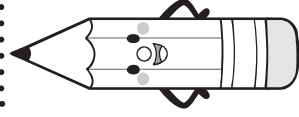
"Wonderful! Welcome to Lily Pad Pond. You will love it here!"

# Camp Koala



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



## Short Answer Questions

1. Jacob talks about three people he meets at camp. Who are they?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you think Jacob is having fun at Camp Koala? Why or why not?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Fill in the Blank

1. We are going to play against \_\_\_\_\_ on Tuesday.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is my favorite because he is very good at fishing.
3. Tonight there is going to be a bonfire. We are going to roast \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for dinner.

Dear Mom and Dad,  
Camp Koala is so much fun! I made a new friend named Flynn. He is really good at baseball and is the captain of our baseball team. We're going to play against Camp Kangaroo on Tuesday. I hope we win!

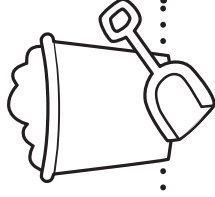
The counselors are really nice. Counselor Jimmy is my favorite because he is really good at fishing. He taught me how to use a fishing rod. It was hard at first, but I got the hang of it. I caught four fish this week!

What else...I guess I can tell you about Daphne. She is a year older than me. She says I am a 'weird kid' but I think she means it in a nice way. She gave me a piece of gum today, which Flynn teased me about all afternoon. He thinks Daphne likes me!

Tonight there is going to be a bonfire. We are going to roast marshmallows and hot dogs for dinner. Flynn and I are going to have a contest to see who can eat the most hot dogs!

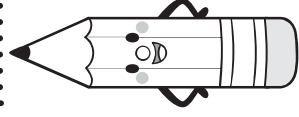
I miss you! Love, Jacob.

# Freddie's Ice Cream Goal



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Short Answer Questions

1. What is Freddie's ice cream goal?

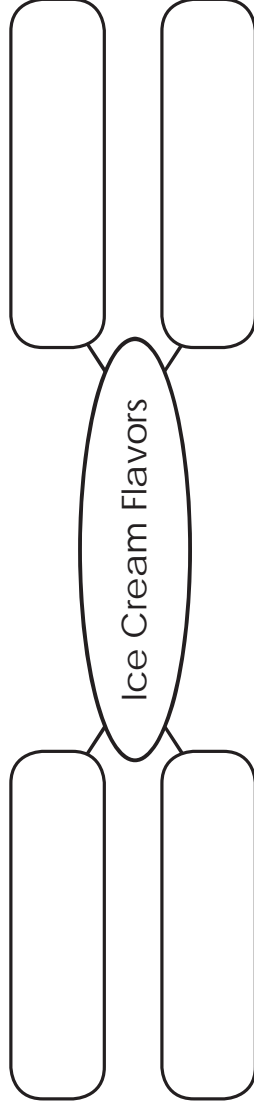
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why might Freddie have a hard time meeting his goal?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## All About Ice Cream!

In the boxes, write down your four favorite flavors of ice cream.



Hi, I'm Freddie. Nice to meet you! I'm just waiting in line at Buck's Ice Cream Parlor. It's down the street from my grandparent's house.

Buck makes the best ice cream ever. He has 50 flavors of ice cream to choose from. My goal is to try all 50 flavors!

While visiting my grandparents last summer, I tried 7 new flavors. This brought my lifetime total to 49 flavors tasted! I would've tried the 50th flavor, but I got sick on the last day and my parents wouldn't let me get ice cream.

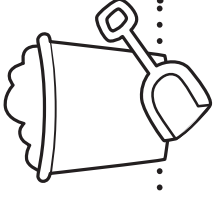
This year I'm going to try the 50th flavor! It is called Loopy Lemon. It's called Loopy Lemon because the lemon is so sour that it makes you loopy! But before I eat it, there's something you should know: I hate lemon!

So, Buck just gave me the Loopy Lemon ice cream. All I have to do is eat this and I will have tried all 50 flavors of Buck's delicious ice cream. Well, all 49 flavors of Buck's delicious ice cream and one very un-delicious flavor of ice cream. Wish me luck!





# Thanks to Johnny Beal!



Every summer, Elmwood Estates has a party. The people who live there get together to eat yummy food and play games. This year, they even had a fireworks show thanks to Johnny Beal.

Right before school ended, Johnny entered a writing contest and won \$100 dollars! Johnny decided that he wanted to do something nice with the money.

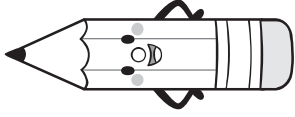
Johnny thought of his helpful neighbors, like Mrs. Hurst, the Jobson twins and Mr. Lee. Mrs. Hurst baked Johnny cupcakes for his birthday. The Jobson twins helped him with his science project. Mr. Lee helped Johnny when his bike broke last spring.

Johnny decided that a fireworks show would make everyone happy. He went to the store with his mother and bought all sorts of fireworks for the show. He bought Ziptoppers, Flamedroppers and even some Windy Suncircles!

What a show it was! Everyone who lived in Elmwood Estates got to watch the amazing fireworks thanks to Johnny Beal!

## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Short Answer Questions

1. What does Johnny Beal do for his neighbors?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why does Johnny Beal do this for his neighbors?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## True or False?

1. Johnny won a writing contest.

True      False

2. Mrs. Hurst baked Johnny a pie for his birthday.

True      False

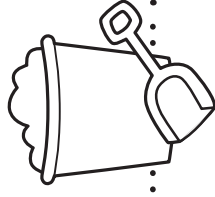
3. Mr. Lee fixed Johnny's bike.

True      False

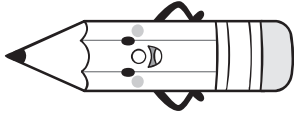
4. Johnny and his neighbors live at Oakwood Estates.

True      False

# The Firefly Challenge



## Understanding the Story



What is the main idea of the story?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Short Answer Questions

1. What are Lucy and Edwin doing at the beginning of the story?

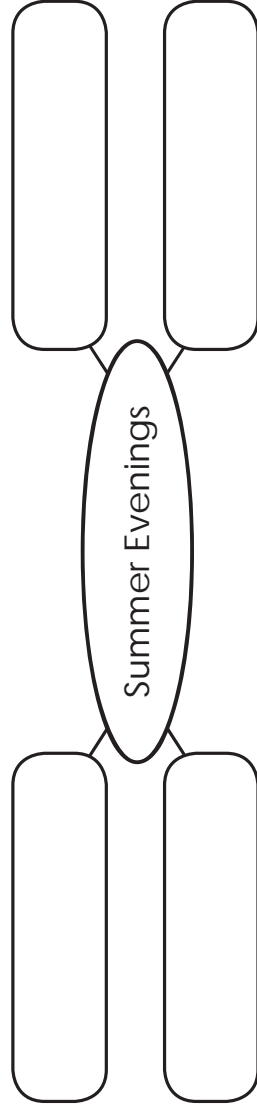
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do Edwin and Lucy think sitting and watching fireflies is more fun than trying to catch them?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Evenings

In the boxes, write things you like to do during warm summer evenings.



One evening in August, Lucy and Edwin were sitting on the back porch of their house. They were watching fireflies.

"I bet I can catch more fireflies than you, Lucy," Edwin said.

"I doubt it!" Lucy replied.

The children ran inside and grabbed two jars. They poked holes in the top of each jar.

"I'll set the timer on my watch. Whoever catches the most fireflies in the next ten minutes wins!" Edwin said.

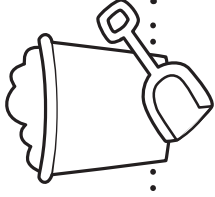
Lucy nodded.

Lucy and Edwin ran around their backyard for the next ten minutes. The fireflies were very fast. Every time the children got near one, it flew away.

"This is no fun! It is hard catching fireflies. I had more fun sitting and watching them. If we watch them from the porch, we can see many at once instead of just one in a jar!" Edwin thought about it and agreed. Lucy and Edwin sat back down on the porch and happily watched the fireflies fly around.



# Tori's Cottage



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Short Answer Questions

1. What shape is the cottage in when Tori and her family first arrive there?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Tori feel when her family has finished fixing up the cottage?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## True or False?

- 1. The cottage had been in Tori's family for over ten years.      True      False
- 2. Tori was not happy when she first saw the cottage.              True      False
- 3. Tori's family spent a week fixing up the cottage.                True      False
- 4. Tori and her family camped in a tent all summer.                True      False

Tori and her family drove up to their cottage.

The cottage had been in Tori's family for over one hundred years, but no one had been to stay there since Tori's mom was young.

Tori was not happy when she saw the cottage. No one had taken care of it for years, so it was in very bad shape!

"We aren't going to spend the summer here, are we?" Tori asked.

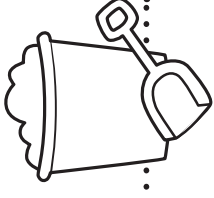
"Don't worry! It just needs to be cleaned up a bit. While we fix it up, we will camp in a tent. It will be fun!" Tori's mother said.

Tori and her family spent the next week cleaning and rebuilding the cottage. They swept, hammered, painted and scrubbed. It was hard work. Tori did not like doing it. She wanted to play. It was her summer vacation after all!

Finally, the cottage was ready to live in. Tori and her family stood back and looked at the cottage. Boy, did it look great!

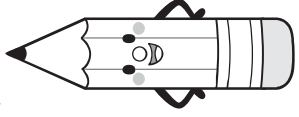
"WE did this!" Tori exclaimed proudly. For the rest of the summer, Tori and her family enjoyed staying at the cottage together.

# Lulu Is Going To The Beach



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Fill in the Blank

1. It was almost the end of \_\_\_\_\_ and Lulu still had not been to the beach.
2. Lulu knew the rules. Her room had to be \_\_\_\_\_ before she could go \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Lulu looked outside. It was \_\_\_\_\_. She sighed and took off her hat.

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. Where does Lulu want to go?
  - a. Her room.
  - b. The library.
  - c. The beach.
2. What does Lulu have to do before she is allowed to go play?
  - a. Finish her homework.
  - b. Clean her room.
  - c. Eat her vegetables.
3. Why does Lulu decide to stay home at the end of the story?
  - a. It starts to rain.
  - b. She gets sick.
  - c. Her favorite T.V. show comes on.

It was almost the end of the summer and Lulu still had not been to the beach.

"Today I will go to the beach! No one can stop me!" Lulu said excitedly.

Lulu's mom laughed. "You may go to the beach, but only after you clean your room."

Lulu knew the rules. Her room had to be clean before she could go play. She quickly put away her clothes and made her bed.

"I'm off to the beach! No one can stop me!" Lulu declared happily.

"You may go after lunch," Lulu's dad said.

Lulu nodded, as she was feeling quite hungry anyway. She quickly ate a turkey sandwich.

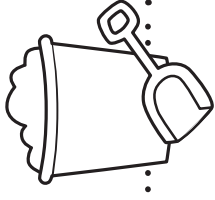
"I'm really going now! No one can stop me!" Lulu grabbed her towel and hat from her room and pranced towards the front door.

"Lulu..." her mom said, pointing at the window. Lulu looked outside. It was pouring rain. She sighed and took off her hat.

"I'm going to the beach tomorrow! And no one can stop me!" Lulu said.

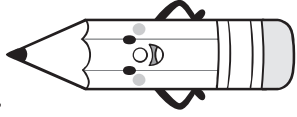
"We wouldn't dream of it," her parents said, smiling.

# Ten More Minutes



## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?




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## Fill in the Blank

- Mr. Green was smiling and telling the class to \_\_\_\_\_ and that he would \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- He tried to concentrate on what Mr. Green was saying. It was a lesson about \_\_\_\_\_.
- Felix, Andy and all of their classmates said \_\_\_\_\_ to Mr. Green as they headed \_\_\_\_\_.

## Multiple Choice

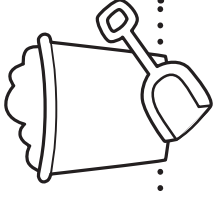
- What does Felix think of Mr. Green?
  - He is a silly teacher.
  - He is a good teacher.
  - He is a boring teacher.
- Who is Andy?
  - Felix's best friend.
  - The class clown.
  - The class bully.
- Why is everyone saying good-bye?
  - The school year is ending.
  - It is time for recess.
  - A student is moving away.

Ten minutes, Felix thought to himself as he watched the clock. Just ten more minutes! He looked over at his teacher. Mr. Green was smiling and telling the class to have fun and that he would miss them. Mr. Green is a good teacher, Felix thought. I'll come visit him again in September.

Felix glanced over at his best friend, Andy. Andy was also keeping a close eye on the clock. *He sure is fidgeting a lot*, Felix thought. Then Felix noticed that he himself was fidgeting a lot as well! He tried to concentrate on what Mr. Green was saying. It was a lesson about how sunscreen works.

"And that students, is the last lesson I will give you as your teacher. Enjoy your time off and remember to always wear sunscreen!" Mr. Green said with a smile. Suddenly, the school bell chimed. The students sprang from their seats cheering. Felix, Andy, and all of their classmates said good-bye to Mr. Green as they headed out the door.

# The 'Berry' Big Rock



Cassidy was at her aunt and uncle's cottage. She was in the woods picking berries with her three cousins: Missy, Marcy and Marty.

Cassidy saw a big bush of berries above a large rock.

"You guys are too small to climb that rock, but it's easy for me to do. I'll climb the rock and get us some of those berries," Cassidy said.

Missy, Marcy and Marty giggled. They played in these woods everyday and were actually very good at climbing rocks! Cassidy walked over to the left side of the rock and climbed it. It was harder than she thought!

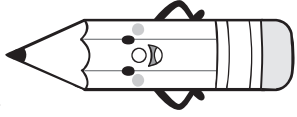
Finally she reached the top of the rock. When she reached the far side of the raspberry bush, she let out a big laugh. Missy, Marcy and Marty were standing by the bush waiting for her!

"We picked some berries for you," Missy said holding out a handful.

Cassidy smiled and the cousins enjoyed snacking on the berries together.

## Understanding the Story

What is the main idea of the story?



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Multiple Choice Questions

1. Where is Cassidy?

- a. At a farm.
- b. At a cottage.
- c. At a hotel.

2. Who are Missy, Marcy and Marty?

- a. Cassidy's cousins.
- b. Cassidy's siblings.
- c. Cassidy's friends.

3. What are the four children doing?

- a. Horseback riding.
- b. Shopping.
- c. Picking berries.

## Short Answer Questions

1. Why does Cassidy laugh when she meets her cousins on the rock?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_