

## Liz's Christmas

It is Christmas morning. Liz is 5 years old. Liz's mother says she can open her presents when she has finished her breakfast. Liz can see lots of presents. One present is very big and she can see two wheels sticking out at the bottom. Liz is very excited because she had asked Father Christmas for a new bike.

### Things To Remember

Who is excited about the Christmas presents?

How old is Liz?

What is special about one of the presents?

### Questions

Who is excited about the Christmas presents?

How old is Liz?

What is special about one of the presents?

When can Liz open her presents?

Did Liz want a new bike?

Liz finished her breakfast as quickly as she could. She had orange juice and toast with butter. Liz looked at all of her presents. She quickly opened her cards first and then went straight to the bike. She pulled off the wrapping paper and there it was - a sparkly purple bike. Just what she wanted. She also got a cycling helmet and some lights and a bell for her new bike.

### Things To Remember

What did Liz have for breakfast?

How many presents were there?

What did Liz open before she unwrapped the bike?

### Questions

What did Liz have for breakfast?

What did Liz open before she unwrapped the bike?

What did the bike look like?

How do you know that Liz was excited about opening her presents?

What other presents did Liz get?

## The Squirrel

One sunny summer day, Kate was having a picnic with her mum and Aunty Ann in the woods. They found a flat bit of grass and laid out the picnic blanket. Kate's mum took the ham sandwiches and fruit out of the hamper and Aunty Ann poured some orange juice into bright red plastic cups. When they are eating their sandwiches, Kate saw a squirrel running up a tree. She said 'Look!' to her mum and Aunty Ann, but it is too late, the squirrel moved so quickly that it was nowhere to be seen.

### Things To Remember

- What was the weather like?
- Who was going to have a picnic?
- What did they have to eat?

### Questions

- What was the weather like?
- Who was going to have a picnic?
- What did they have to eat?
- What did Aunty Ann pour the juice into?
- Why couldn't Kate's mum or aunt see the squirrel?

Kate walked around the tree, looking up at the branches. "I can't see it" she said "It must have gone to another tree". Kate could see birds in the tree and a huge birds nest, but no squirrel. 'I wish I'd brought my camera' Kate thought. Just then, something hard landed on Kate's head. It was an acorn. "Ow" said Kate. When she looked up. The squirrel was looking right at her then disappeared. Kate was sure that the squirrel was laughing.

### Things To Remember

- What did Kate do to help herself see?
- What did Kate see when she was looking for the squirrel?
- What fell on Kate's head?

### Questions

- What did Kate do to help herself see?
- What did Kate see when she was looking for the squirrel?
- What fell on Kate's head?
- What did Kate wish she had brought?
- What did Kate think the squirrel was doing when it looked at her?

## New Friends

It is Sue's first day at her new school. She is feeling very nervous. Sue already misses her friends Molly and Tom from her old school. As she gets ready for school, she remembers the games she would play with Molly and Tom. Her favourite game was 'Who Can Climb The Highest?' when they would each choose a tree to climb. Tom always won.

### Things To Remember

What is the girl called?  
Why is she feeling nervous?  
Who did she miss?

### Questions

What is the girl called?  
Why is she feeling nervous?  
Who did she miss?  
What was Sue's favourite game?  
Who always won the game?

At last Sue was ready to go to school. She said goodbye to her mum and dad and shut the bright yellow door behind her. "Hello" said a voice. Sue turned round and saw a girl leaving the house next door. She looked about the same age as Sue. "I'm Molly." said the girl "You're new here aren't you." Sue nodded and said "Hello. I used to have a friend called Molly, but she is at my old school. Will you be my new friend?"

### Things To Remember

What colour is the front door?  
How old was the girl?  
Where did the girl live?

### Questions

What colour is the front door?  
How old was the girl?  
Where did the girl live?  
What was the girl called?  
What did Sue ask Molly?

## Homer and Rosie

"Homer, Rosie" Jen heard nothing. "Homer, Rosie" she shouted again. Then she heard a rustle in the trees but when she looked up she could see it was just the wind. 'Oh well' thought Jen. 'They'll have to sleep outside tonight'. She started to close the door. Just then the youngest cat Rosie came running into the house. "That was lucky. I nearly locked you out" said Jen. Rosie purred and rubbed herself against Jen's legs as she shut the door.

### Things To Remember

- What two names did Jen call out?
- What did Jen hear outside?
- Which is the youngest cat - Homer or Rosie?

### Questions

- What two names did Jen call out?
- What did Jen hear outside?
- Which is the youngest cat - Homer or Rosie?
- Why was Rosie lucky?
- How do we know Rosie was happy?

Homer was far away. When he heard his name being called, he ran all the way home, but it was too late. The door was closed. Homer looked through the glass door and could see Rosie eating some fresh food. He called but nobody heard him. Jen had the television on. Homer was just about to give up and find a place to sleep when Rosie spotted him. Rosie called out. "What's up?" said Jen "is Homer out there?" Jen opened the door and a happy Homer walked in. He was pleased to be home, even if Rosie had eaten all of the food.

### Things To Remember

- Why didn't Homer make it home in time?
- What was Rosie doing when Homer saw her?
- Why couldn't Jen hear Homer calling?

### Questions

- Why didn't Homer make it home in time?
- What was Rosie doing when Homer saw her?
- Why couldn't Jen hear Homer calling?
- What was the door made of?
- Homer was happy but what might have annoyed him?

## A Trip to the Farm

Ruth and Ian Foster lived on a farm. Today they were very excited because they were going on a school trip. 'A magical mystery tour' said their teacher Mrs Booth. Ruth hoped they might be going to a fun fair with lots of rides. Ian hoped they might be going to be play football in a proper football stadium. When they got to school Mrs Booth said, "OK everyone let me tell you where we are going. We are going to a farm". All of the children shouted 'Hooray' well, except from Ruth and Ian. "We should have just stayed at home" grumbled Ian. Ruth nodded.

### Things To Remember

Why were Ruth and Ian excited?

Where did Ruth want to go?

Where did Ian want to go?

### Questions

Why were Ruth and Ian excited?

Where did Ruth want to go?

Where did Ian want to go?

How did Mrs Booth describe the trip to the children?

The farmer showed the children the cows and the goats, telling them all about what they like to eat and how cows and goats give us milk. Just then the farmer's wife shouted "George, it's the phone for you". "Excuse me" said the farmer. Ian noticed that something was wrong with one of the sheep. "Ruth look" he whispered. "That sheep's about to have a lamb" said Ruth excitedly "We must go and get the farmer" Ruth ran and got the farmer. "Thank you, thank you" he said "If I wasn't here something might have gone wrong." All the children watched as the tiny lamb was born. " I think I'll call the lamb Foster" said the farmer.

### Things To Remember

What were the first two animals the farmer showed the children?

Why didn't the farmer see the sheep?

What will the farmer call the lamb?

### Questions

What were the first two animals the farmer showed the children?

Why didn't the farmer see the sheep?

What will the farmer call the lamb?

What two things did he tell the children about the cows and sheep?

Who ran to fetch the farmer?

## A Day Off School

Tim didn't want to go to school. He wanted to stay in bed and watch his favourite dinosaur films. Anyway, it wasn't fair. His little sister Mary didn't have to go to school today because she had a cold. "Mum I don't feel well" shouted Tim. Tim's mum came running up the stairs. "What's wrong?" she asked. "I think I have a temperature. I'm really hot all over" Tim's mum felt his head. It was burning. She decided that he should stay at home. Mary came upstairs and asked Tim if he was really ill or just pretending. Tim smiled and showed Mary that he had his electric blanket on to the highest number.

### Things To Remember

Why didn't Tim want to go to school?

Why wasn't Mary going to school?

How did Tim trick his mum?

### Questions

Why wasn't Mary going to school?

How did Tim trick his mum?

What did Tim's mum do to see if he was OK?

Was it just Tim's head that was hot?

Tim was in a very good mood. He was lying in bed watching a film about a Tyrannosaurus Rex. He had finished his juice and chocolate biscuit. Tim thought about his friends at school. They would be doing maths just now. Tim laughed out loud. Tim's mum came up the stairs. "Hmm. You seem to be much better" she said knowingly. "Oh well, I'm still a bit poorly" replied Tim. "In that case, you'd better take some of this" said mum. Tim could see a big brown bottle of medicine. He knew that it was the most smelly, disgusting medicine he had ever tasted. 'Oh no' thought Tim 'I wish I was at school'.

### Things To Remember

What was Tim doing?

What had his mum given him?

How did Tim feel when he had to take the medicine?

### Questions

What was Tim doing?

What special treat had his mum given him?

How did Tim feel when he had to take the medicine?

Did Tim's mum believe Tim was poorly?

What would his friends have been doing?

## Waiting for The Postman

Sam was very bored. His best friend Michael had gone on holiday to Spain. He had hoped that Michael's mum might have asked Sam to go with them, but she didn't. Sam was looking out of the window and watched as the postman walked up to their front door when he had an idea. Sam crept into the hallway and just as the postman started to push the letters through the postbox, Sam shouted 'Woof woof. Grrrr!' and then giggled as the postman ran away. "Sam!" Shouted his mum "Don't you ever do that again"

### Things To Remember

How was Sam feeling?

Where had his friend Michael gone?

What did Sam do to the postman?

### Questions

How was Sam feeling?

Where had his friend Michael gone?

What did Sam do to the postman?

How did the postman react?

How did Sam's mum react?

The next morning, Sam was waiting for the postman, ready to do his trick again. Sam had even thought that this time he would snatch the letters from his hand. That would give him a fright! Sam waited and waited, but there was no sign of the postman. He started to panic. What if he had given the postman such a fright that he was too frightened to leave his own house? What if the postman was in a hospital bed shaking and crying "The dog! The dog!" What if the postman realised it had just been Sam? What if the police came to arrest him? Sam was scared. Just then, the letters were pushed through the letter box. Sam opened the door and said "Thank you, Postman". "My pleasure" he replied "Where's that dog of yours today?" "Oh he's gone to live in Spain. You don't need to worry about him anymore" said Sam.

### Things To Remember

What was Sam going to do this time?

What did Sam think might have happened to the postman?

What did Sam say had happened to the 'dog'?

### Questions

What did Sam think might have happened to the postman?

What did Sam think might happen to him?

What did Sam say had happened to the 'dog'?