"This story focuses on the 'oy' sound as in 'boy.' Watch for words like 'joy,' 'boy,' and 'enjoy' as Maya creates a special garden!"



The Garden of Joy

Maya planted a new garden full of bright yellow flowers.

She hoped the garden would bring joy to everyone who passed by.

One day, a butterfly landed on a flower and seemed to enjoy the sweet smell.

Soon, a small boy walked by and said, "This garden makes me feel happy!"

Maya smiled. "That's why I planted it," she said.

The garden became a place of peace and joy for the whole town.





Name:

The Garden of Joy

1. Why did Maya plant a garden?		2. Who stopped by and felt happy about the garden?	
Α.	To grow food	Α.	A cat
В.	To bring joy to people who passed by		B. A small boyC. Maya's brotherD. A gardener
С.	To hide her toys		
D.	To start a business	0.	

3. Fill in the blank:

One day, a butterfly landed on a flower and seemed to ____ the sweet smell.

4. How did the garden make people feel?

5. What could you do to make your neighborhood a happier place?





Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *oy as in "boy" (/oi/ sound)* **Genre:** *Fiction – Realistic Fiction / Kindness* **High-Frequency Words:** *she, the, that, why, said*

Before Reading

- 1. This story uses "oy" words like joy, boy, enjoy, annoy, toy, and employ.
- 2. Have you ever done something kind to make someone else feel happy?
- 3. What places in your town or neighborhood bring people joy?

During Reading

- 1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Practice stretching the /oi/ sound in "oy" words like *joy* and *boy*. Remind readers that "oy" makes the sound at the end of words.
- 2. Watch for target skill words that show how Maya's garden changes the way people feel.
- 3. Who stopped by and shared kind words about the garden?
- 4. Read the final line with a peaceful and proud voice—like Maya felt after doing something good!

After Reading

- 1. Retell how Maya's garden helped people feel joyful.
- 2. Why do you think small acts of kindness make a big difference?
- 3. What's something you can do this week to bring joy to someone else?
- 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "oy" words in the story.
- 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again using a calm, happy voice—like you're enjoying a beautiful garden.

Activity Idea

Draw Maya's garden full of bright yellow flowers with a butterfly and a smiling boy nearby. Label parts using "oy" words like *joy*, *boy*, *enjoy*, *annoy*, *toy*, or *employ*. Write one sentence about why kindness makes people happy.

Coaching Tip

Stories about kindness show kids how small choices create big smiles—every word planted grows a better world!



