

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Ask & Answer Questions

Read the short story and answer each question.



Ben's Big Mess

Ben had blocks, books, and bears all over the floor.

"Time to clean up," said Dad.

Ben looked around the room. He didn't want to clean.

"I'm building a zoo!" he said.

Dad smiled. "Can the animals live on the shelf?"

Ben frowned. "But the zoo is busy!" He pointed to a toy lion by the bed.

Dad knelt down. "Let's move the lion to the shelf. Then the zoo will be safe."

Ben thought. He picked up the lion. "Okay," he said.

Soon, the bears were in their cave, the blocks were in a bin, and the books were on the shelf.

"The zoo is ready," said Ben.

"And it's clean!" said Dad.



Name: _____

Ben's Big Mess

1. What did Ben say he was building?

- A. A school
- B. A zoo
- C. A rocket

2. Why did Ben not want to clean up at first?

- A. He was tired
- B. He wanted to keep building
- C. He was looking for his shoes

3. Fill in the blank:

Ben had blocks, books, and _____ all over the floor.

4. What did Ben and Dad do to solve the problem of the messy room?

5. What happened at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: E

Lexile Level: 30L-150L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre:

Introducing the Text

“Today we’re going to read a story about a boy who makes a big mess. As we read, we’ll look for important details—what happens, what the characters do, and how the problem gets solved. At the end, you’ll be able to answer some questions to show what you remember and understand.”

Vocabulary: zoo, clean, shelf, building, problem

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you do when your room gets messy?
 2. Have you ever built something with toys?
 3. What do you think this story might be about?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does Ben say when his dad asks him to clean up?
 2. How does Dad help Ben solve the problem?
 3. What happens after Ben moves the lion?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What was the main problem in the story?
 2. How did Ben and Dad work together to fix it?
 3. Can you retell the story using what happened first, next, and last?
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Activity Idea

Give students a mini “mess kit” containing a few small toys, paper scraps, and crayons. Ask them to make a pretend mess on their desks, then work with a partner to come up with a fun and fair way to clean it—just like Ben and his dad did. Afterward, students will draw or write a “before and after” picture of their mess and how they solved it.

