Read the short story and answer each question.



The Glow in the Grass

Maya loved to play in the tall grass by her house. One night, as the sun dipped low, the grass began to shimmer. Maya blinked. "Is that... light?" she whispered.

She tiptoed closer and saw tiny bugs dancing in the air. They glowed yellow and green. One landed on her finger. It felt soft, like a feather.

"Wow," she said, her eyes wide.

Maya stayed still. The bugs zipped and zoomed like tiny stars. She laughed. "You're magic!" she said.

A warm breeze brushed her face. It smelled like flowers and trees. Maya closed her eyes and smiled.

When she opened them, the bugs were gone. But the grass still shimmered a little.

Maya ran inside. "I saw glowing bugs!" she said.

Mom smiled. "Those are fireflies."

Maya looked out the window. "I hope they come back."



The Glow in the Grass

1. What did Maya see in the grass?	2. What word helps you feel how the breeze was?
A. glowing bugs	A. loud
B. shiny toys	B. cold
C. little frogs	C. warm
D. green leaves	D. slow
3. Fill in the blank:	
The bugs glowed yellow and	
4. How did Maya feel when she saw the fireflies? What words tell you that?	
5. Why do you think Maya smiled when she closed her eyes?	

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: E Lexile Level: 10L-160L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Fantasy

Introducing the Text

"Today we're reading a gentle fantasy story about a girl named Maya who discovers something glowing in the grass. As we read, let's pay attention to the words that help us feel what Maya feels and imagine what she sees, hears, and smells."

Vocabulary: glow, shimmer, breeze, fireflies, whisper

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What do you think it means when something "glows"?
- 2. Have you ever seen bugs or lights outside at night?
- 3. What do you think might happen in a story with glowing bugs?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. How does the author help us imagine what Maya sees?
- 2. What senses is Maya using in this story?
- 3. How does Maya react when the bugs land on her?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What words helped you imagine the setting in the story?
- How do you think Maya felt when the fireflies left?
- 3. What would you do if you saw fireflies glowing in your yard?

Activity Idea

Have students create a "senses journal" page using crayons or watercolors. They should draw a scene from the story and write (or dictate) one sentence for what Maya saw, smelled, felt, heard, and thought during the moment with the fireflies. This connects sensory words with visualization.

