Read the short story and answer each question.



Lena and the Lost Lunch

Lena opened her backpack and frowned. "Oh no! My lunch is gone," she said.

Her teacher came over. "When did you last see it?"

"At home, on the kitchen table," Lena said sadly.

Her friend Max said, "Let's check the lost and found!"

Lena and Max looked through the bin. They found a glove, a sock, and a water bottle—but no lunch.

Then Max pointed. "Look! That red lunchbox is by the reading rug."

Lena ran over and picked it up. "It's mine!" she said with a smile.

At lunchtime, Max and Lena sat together. "Thanks for helping me," Lena said.

"You're welcome," Max said. "Now let's eat!"



Lena and the Lost Lunch

- 1. What did Ben say he was building?
- A. On the playground
- B. On the kitchen table
- C. In her cubby

- 2. What did Lena and Max find in the lost and found?
- A. A red lunchbox
- B. A glove, a sock, and a water bottle
- C. A pencil and a book

3. Fill in the blank:

Lena found her red lunchbox by the ______.

4. What was the problem in the story, and how was it solved?

5. Ask a question about something that happened in the story. Then try to answer your question using details from the text.

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: F Lexile Level: 85L-225L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Fiction

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a story about Lena, who loses something important. As we read, we'll pay close attention to the characters, what happens, and how they solve the problem. At the end, you'll answer questions that help you remember and understand the story."

Vocabulary: lunchbox, found, reading rug, glove, smile

Discussion Questions Before Reading

- 1. What do you usually bring in your lunch?
- 2. Have you ever lost something at school?
- 3. What might a story called *Lena and the Lost Lunch* be about?

Discussion Questions During Reading

- 1. Where does Lena think she left her lunch?
- What do Lena and Max find in the lost and found?
- 3. Where do they finally find the lunch?

Discussion Questions After Reading

- 1. What was the main problem in the story?
- 2. How did Max help Lena?
- 3. What do you think the author wants us to learn?

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.

