

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Using Illustrations

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Cloud Parade

Ellis stood on his porch and blinked. The clouds weren't floating... they were marching!

They wore tiny hats and sparkled like bubbles in the sun.

"Come see!" he called to his cat, Pickles.

One cloud dipped low and waved. "Join us!"

Ellis reached out—and poof! He was floating on a cloud like a parade float. Pickles meowed and floated too.

They drifted over treetops and rooftops, past birds and balloons. One cloud puffed out music notes. Another juggled raindrops.

Ellis laughed and waved at the people below.

When they floated back home, Ellis whispered, "That was the fluffiest day ever."



Name: _____

The Cloud Parade

1. How can the pictures help you understand the story's setting?

- A. They show clouds marching and floating in the sky
- B. They show people eating lunch indoors
- C. They show animals on a farm
- D. They show books in a library

2. What do the illustrations show about Pickles the cat?

- A. Pickles floats on a cloud and looks surprised
- B. Pickles hides under the bed
- C. Pickles walks on the sidewalk
- D. Pickles is eating from a bowl

3. Fill in the blank:

One cloud juggled tiny _____ as it passed by.

4. What clues in the illustration tell you this is a fantasy story?

5. How do the pictures help you know how Ellis feels during the cloud parade?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: G

Lexile Level: 165L-305L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Fantasy (Fiction)

Introducing the Text

"Today we're reading a magical story about a boy named Ellis who discovers something very unusual in the sky. As we read, let's look at the pictures to help us understand where he is, what's happening, and how he feels."

Vocabulary: porch, parade, juggled, drifted, whispered

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you think a cloud parade might look like?
 2. Have you ever imagined what it would be like to float in the sky?
 3. How can pictures help you know what's happening in a story?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What details in the illustration show this is not a real-world event?
 2. How do the clouds look different from normal clouds?
 3. What clues tell you how Ellis is feeling?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How do the illustrations help make the story feel magical?
 2. What parts of the story are better understood because of the pictures?
 3. If you drew a picture of your own cloud parade, what would be in it?
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Activity Idea

Give students a cloud outline and ask them to design their own "fantasy cloud" (e.g., one that sings, paints, or plays basketball). They can draw it and write one sentence using a describing word from the picture (e.g., "My cloud is silly because it wears shoes!"). Then share as a "Sky Story Parade."

