Read the short story and answer each question.



My Umbrella Made a Friend

I didn't like rainy days—until I met Dot.

Dot is my umbrella. She's red, round, and has tiny white polka dots.

Last Tuesday, it rained and rained. I grabbed Dot and ran outside.

"Let's go, Dot!" I said.

That's when I heard it. A tiny voice whispered, "I'm ready."

I looked up. "Did you just talk?"

Dot wiggled. "Of course I did!"

We splashed through puddles. We twirled in the wind. Dot even chased a falling leaf like a puppy.

I laughed and held her tight.

When the rain stopped, Dot whispered, "Thanks for the fun."

Now, I don't mind rainy days. Dot and I are puddle-jumping pals.



Name	N	am	e
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# My Umbrella Made a Friend

- 1. Who is telling the story?
- A. The child who owns the umbrella
- B. Dot the umbrella
- C. A teacher in the classroom
- D. A narrator outside the story

- 2. What tells you the narrator is part of the story?
- A. The narrator uses words like "I" and "my"
- B. The story talks about the weather
- C. Dot is red with polka dots
- D. There is a leaf in the story

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3. Fill in the blank:	
My umbrella's name is	·
4. What clues show that the telling the story?	main character is the one
5. How would the story sound umbrella told it?	d different if Dot the



## **Parent and Teacher Guide**

Guide Reading Level: H Lexile Level: 200L-350L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Middle of the Year

**Genre:** Fantasy (Fiction)

#### Introducing the Text

"Today's story is told by a child who doesn't like rainy days—until their umbrella starts talking! As we read, let's focus on who is telling the story and how we can tell that it's being told from their point of view."

Vocabulary: umbrella, polka dots, whispered, puddles, twirled

## **Before Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. Have you ever given a name to a toy or object?
- What would it be like if your umbrella could talk?
- 3. How can you tell who is telling a story?

# **During Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What does the narrator say that shows they are part of the story?
- 2. How does Dot act like a real friend?
- 3. What feelings does the narrator share?

### After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. How would the story change if Dot told it instead?
- Why is it important to know who's telling the story?
- 3. What do you think the narrator learned by the end?

# **Activity Idea**

Give students a template of an umbrella. Have them draw their own umbrella and give it a name. Then write a few first-person sentences from their umbrella's point of view (e.g., "Today, I jumped in the biggest puddle!"). Compare how the story sounds when the umbrella tells it instead of the child.

