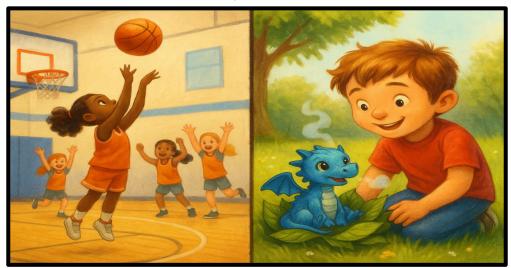
Read the short story and answer each question.



# Tari's Big Game

Tari held the basketball tight. Her team was losing by one point.

"Ten seconds left!" shouted the coach.

Tari's heart beat fast. She bounced the ball. Left... right...

She shot.

The ball flew up, up—swish!

The buzzer buzzed. Her team cheered.

"We won!" Tari shouted. Her smile stretched across her face.

## Milo and the Dragon Egg

Milo found a glowing egg in his backyard. It wiggled!

He made a nest with leaves and waited.

Suddenly—crack! A tiny dragon popped out!

It sneezed a puff of blue smoke.

"Whoa," said Milo. "I'll call you Spark!"

He built Spark a box-bed and fed it raisins.

"Best day ever," Milo said as Spark curled up and purred.



# Tari's Big Game & Milo and the Dragon Egg

- 1. What do both Tari and Milo do in their stories?
  - A. They both experience something exciting and new
  - B. They both climb a mountain
- C. They both ride a dragon
- D. They both eat dinner

- 2. What makes their experiences different?
- A. Tari plays basketball, and Milo finds a dragon
- B. Tari finds an egg, and Milo plays in a game
- C. Milo wins a race, and Tari goes home
- D. Both play with a soccer ball



### **Parent and Teacher Guide**

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

**Grade Level:** 1st Grade, Middle of the Year **Genre:** Contemporary Fiction & Fantasy

### Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read two fun stories—one about a basketball game, and one about a magical dragon. As we read, we'll look at how both characters have big moments, and we'll compare how they handle what happens."

Vocabulary: buzzer, bounced, dragon, nest, swish

### **Before Reading Discussion Questions**

- What kinds of stories do you like—realistic or magical?
- 2. Have you ever had an exciting moment in real life or a dream?
- 3. How can different types of stories still show similar feelings?

### **During Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What does Tari do that shows she's brave under pressure?
- 2. What does Milo do to take care of the dragon?
- 3. How do the pictures help show how both characters feel?

#### **After Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What do Tari and Milo's stories have in common?
- 2. What makes their adventures different?
- 3. Which story feels more like your own life? Which feels like a dream?

#### **Activity Idea**

Let students draw two pictures: one showing Tari's big basketball moment and one showing Milo with his dragon. Then they write (or dictate) one sentence about what's the same and what's different. Bonus: Have them create their own "real vs. fantasy" adventure!

