

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Character Response

Read the short story and answer each question.



Lena's Big Day

Lena zipped up her coat and looked out the window. Today was her first time playing goalie for her soccer team, the Red Rockets. She had never played goalie before. Her stomach felt funny, like butterflies were bouncing around inside.

At the field, Lena's coach knelt beside her. "Just try your best," Coach said. "Stay focused and have fun."

The game started fast. The other team kicked the ball hard and fast, and Lena had to jump, reach, and dive to stop it. She missed the first goal, and her face turned red. She wanted to quit, but her teammates cheered, "You've got this, Lena!"

Lena took a deep breath and stood tall. She watched the ball like a hawk. When it zoomed her way again, she bent her knees and blocked it with her hands. "Nice save!" Coach shouted.

By the end of the game, Lena had stopped three more goals. The Red Rockets lost, but Lena felt proud. She didn't give up—even when it was hard.



Name: _____

Lena's Big Day

1. Why did Lena feel nervous at the start of the story?

- A. She forgot her soccer shoes.
- B. She was playing goalie for the first time.
- C. She was afraid of her coach.
- D. She was late to the game.

2. How did Lena respond after missing the first goal?

- A. She sat down and cried.
- B. She got angry at her team.
- C. She took a deep breath and kept trying.
- D. She left the game early.

3. Fill in the blank:

Lena blocked the ball with her _____.

4. What challenge did Lena face, and how did she respond to it? Use details from the story to explain.

5. Have you ever tried something new that was hard? What helped you keep going like Lena?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: J

Lexile Level: 290L-440L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read about Lena, who has to face something new and a little scary—playing goalie in a soccer game. As we read, think about how she reacts to the challenge and how her feelings change. We'll talk about the big events and how Lena responds to them."

Vocabulary: goalie, butterflies, zoomed, blocked, proud

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been nervous to try something new?
 2. What do you know about playing soccer?
 3. What do you do when something feels hard?
-

During Reading Discussion Questions

1. How is Lena feeling in this part of the story?
 2. What happens when she misses the goal?
 3. What does her coach or team do to support her?
-

After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How did Lena change from the beginning to the end?
 2. Why do you think Lena was proud at the end, even though her team lost?
 3. What can we learn from Lena about trying hard things?
-

Activity Idea

Create a "Brave Moments" badge! Have each student draw or write about a time they tried something new or scary, just like Lena. Cut the papers into badge shapes and display them on a class bulletin board called "We Are Brave Like Lena!"

