Pip's Rainy Parade

Read the short story and answer each question.

Pip's Rainy Parade

Pip the penguin had been waiting all week for the Great Animal Parade. He polished his drums, tied a bow on his tail, and practiced marching in perfect rhythm.

But when parade day arrived, the sky was gray and wet. Raindrops plopped on Pip's hat as he looked outside.

"Oh no! Will the parade be canceled?" Pip asked his mom.

"Maybe not," she said, peeking out the window. "Check the town square."

Pip waddled to the square and gasped. The animals were there, wearing boots, hats, and raincoats! Some carried umbrellas. Others played waterproof drums.

"Let's make it a Splash Parade!" shouted a lion in a yellow coat.

Pip smiled and joined the line. The rain danced on their instruments and puddles sparkled with every step.

Even with clouds overhead, the parade was full of color and joy.



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- 1. Where is Pip when he first notices the rain?
- A. Inside his house
- B. In the town square
- C. Under an umbrella
- D. In the parade line

- 2. What do the illustrations help show about the parade?
- A. That the animals were bored
- B. That everyone had to go home early
- C. That the animals were happy, even in the rain
- D. That Pip forgot his drum

| 3. Fill in the blank: |
|---|
| Pip wore red to keep his feet dry. |
| 4. How do the pictures and the words work together to help you understand the setting and characters? |
| 5. What did the animals do to turn a rainy day into something fun? |

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: J Lexile Level: 290L-440L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Introducing the Text

"Today we are going to read about a penguin named Pip who learns how to make a rainy day joyful. As we read, we will pay close attention to the pictures and the words. The illustrations will help us understand what the characters are doing and feeling."

Vocabulary: parade, boots, raincoat, instruments, puddles

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What kinds of things can you learn from pictures in a book?
- 2. Have you ever been to a parade or marched in one?
- 3. What do you think animals might do if it rained during a parade?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What do you notice about how Pip feels at the beginning vs. the end?
- 2. What do the animals wear to stay dry?
- 3. How does the picture help you understand the mood of the parade?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- How do the illustrations help you understand the setting?
- 2. What clues in the pictures show that the animals are having fun?
- 3. How do the words and pictures work together to tell the story?

Activity Idea

Give students paper penguins and cutouts of rain gear. Students will decorate their penguins and create their own version of a Rainy Day Parade scene. Then, each student writes a sentence describing what their penguin is doing in the picture, using both the drawing and the words to share meaning.

