Read the short story and answer each question.



The Treasure of Tide Pool Cove

Sasha loved exploring the rocky beach near her grandparents' house. She especially loved Tide Pool Cove, where tiny sea creatures lived between the rocks.

One morning after a storm, Sasha spotted something shiny near a cluster of seaweed.

"It looks like a coin!" she gasped.

She knelt down and found a small tin box half-buried in the sand. Inside was a yellowed map with drawings of crabs, shells, and arrows pointing toward the rocks.

Excited, Sasha followed the clues, looking for patterns in the tide pools. A starfish on a rock, a shell with a spiral, and finally, a crab with one huge claw!

Behind the crab was a small wooden box tucked between stones.

Sasha opened it to find smooth sea glass, a polished shell, and a note:

"To the next explorer—may your heart stay curious."

Sasha smiled. She hadn't just found treasure. She had found a story left behind for someone just like her.



The Treasure of Tide Pool Cove

- 1. What does Sasha find after the storm?
- A. A shiny coin and a treasure map
- B. A crab with a golden shell
- C. A starfish that glows
- D. A floating message in a bottle

- 2. What do the illustrations help show about the setting?
- A. That Sasha is playing inside a cave
- B. That she is in a rocky beach environment with tide pools
- C. That she is lost in the forest
- D. That she is sailing on a boat

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Sasha found a box filled with sea glass, a polished shell, and a ______.

4. How do the pictures help you understand what Tide Pool Cove looks like and what Sasha is doing?

5. What does the illustration help you understand that the words alone might not show?

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: L Lexile Level: 355L-505L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Adventure Fiction

Introducing the Text

"In this adventure story, we meet Sasha as she explores a rocky beach and finds a hidden treasure. We'll look at how the words and illustrations work together to show us where she is, what she's doing, and how she feels. Pay attention to what the picture shows that the words don't tell us directly."

Vocabulary: cove, tide pool, explorer, sea glass, clue

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you ever searched for something hidden outside? What did you look for?
- What kinds of things do we usually learn from story illustrations?
- 3. What clues might help you explore a new place?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What do the pictures show about the setting that help us understand where Sasha is?
- 2. How does the map in the story guide Sasha?
- 3. What do Sasha's actions and body language tell us about how she feels?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. How did the illustration add to your understanding of the treasure Sasha found?
- What mood or feeling does the picture give you about her adventure?
- 3. Why is it helpful to use both text and illustrations when we read?

Activity Idea

Students create their own treasure map using symbols and illustrations, then write 3 sentences to describe where it leads and what someone might find. They will trade maps with a partner and use the illustrations and clues to interpret the setting and "treasure."

