

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Compare and Contrast

Read the short story. Then answer each question.



The Lost Kite

Lena ran outside with her red kite, excited to fly it in the strong spring wind. She let out the string, and the kite soared high. "Look how high it goes!" she shouted to her friend Jake. Suddenly, a gust of wind yanked the kite from her hands. "Oh no!" she cried. The kite floated away and got stuck in a tree. Jake helped her climb up and carefully pull it down. "Next time, I'll hold on tighter," Lena said with a smile.



The Runaway Balloon

Owen held onto his bright blue balloon as he and his dad walked through the park. He loved how it bounced in the air. "Hold on tight," Dad warned. But just then, a strong wind tugged at the balloon. Before Owen could react, it slipped from his hand and floated into the sky. He watched it rise higher and higher until it disappeared. "I guess balloons don't come back," Owen sighed. "Next time, I'll tie it to my wrist."



Name: _____

The Lost Kite & The Runaway Balloon

1. What is something Lena and Owen both do in their stories?

- a) They let go of something by accident.
- b) They chase after a bird.
- c) They lose their hats in the wind.
- d) They fly a balloon.

2. How are the two stories different?

- a) Lena's kite gets lost, but Owen finds his balloon.
- b) Lena gets her kite back, but Owen's balloon floats away.
- c) Owen's balloon gets stuck in a tree, and Lena helps him.
- d) Both Lena and Owen climb trees to find their lost items.

3. Fill in the blank:

Lena and Owen both lose something because of the strong _____.

4. How do Lena and Owen feel when they lose their kite and balloon? How do they react?

5. If you could change the ending of one of these stories, what would you change and why?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: M

Lexile Level: 500L-600L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, End of the Year

Introducing the Text

"Today, we are going to read two short stories about children who lose something important to them. As we read, think about what is the same and what is different between the two stories. After reading, we will compare and contrast them to understand how different characters handle similar situations."

Vocabulary: soar, gust, react, disappear

Discussion Questions Before Reading

1. Have you ever lost something in the wind? How did it make you feel?
 2. What do you think happens in a story about a lost kite or balloon?
 3. Do you think losing a kite and losing a balloon would feel the same? Why or why not?
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Discussion Questions During Reading

1. What problem does Lena face? What problem does Owen face?
 2. How do the characters react when they lose their items?
 3. Do you think Lena and Owen learned a lesson? What was it?
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Discussion Questions After Reading

1. What details are the same in both stories? What details are different?
 2. If Owen had been with Lena, do you think he would have gotten his balloon back? Why or why not?
 3. What advice would you give Lena and Owen for the next time they play outside?
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Activity Idea

Have students fold a piece of paper in half. On one side, they draw and label ways that **Lena's story** is unique. On the other side, they do the same for **Owen's story**. In the middle, they list or draw things that are the **same** between the two stories. This creates a **visual comparison** to reinforce the skill of comparing and contrasting.

