

Alex's Discovery

Alex was eating his breakfast one morning. Outside, his dog, Tiki, began to bark. Alex's mom looked up from the sink, where she was doing dishes. "Alex, please go see what Tiki is barking at."

"Sure, mom," Alex said. He went outside.

The little brown dog was barking at a bush. Alex knelt down. "What is it, Tiki?" he asked. "Is there a squirrel in there?" The bush began to rustle. Alex walked up to it. He saw something move behind the bush. He pushed the branches aside.

A tiny little man stood there. He wore a silver **space** suit. He had a big, round head. He had green skin. His nose was shaped like a horn. "Please do not hurt me," the little man said. "Okay," said Alex. For some reason, he did not feel afraid. "Are you from outer **space**?" The man nodded. "Yes. My name is Bort. I come from another **planet**. My **space** ship is out of fuel. I need help."

"What kind of fuel do you need?" Alex asked. Bort took a little bottle from the pocket of his **space** suit. There was pink liquid inside. "This," he said. "You have lots of it here on **Earth**. I believe you call it lemonade." He gave the bottle to Alex. He opened the top and sniffed. It was lemonade, all right. "How much do you need?" Alex asked. "About ten thousand gallons," said Bort. "It is a very big ship."

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Describe what Alex found when he went outside.

2. Where is Bort from?

3. According to the story, how could Alex be helpful to Bort?

4. What is this story mostly about?

What is a Wolverine?

Text and image provided courtesy of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



a wolverine

Wolverines have thick, black and brown fur and a face like a small bear. They are a little bigger than medium-sized dogs, such as beagles. But they're not bears or dogs. Wolverines are the largest type of weasel! They live mostly alone, in the mountains. Wolverines are very strong. They use their big feet and long claws to travel far and **hunt**. They eat almost anything, from berries to birds. Their favorite meals are deer and smaller mammals.

Wolverines stay high in the mountains during the summers. Up in the mountains, there is often snow, even in the summer. Wolverines store their food in the snow. In the winter, they come down from the mountain, but not too far. They still stay far away from people. In both the winter and summer, they can travel up to 15 miles per day to **hunt** for food. Wherever they are, wolverines are important to the **environment**. They eat almost anything, including animals they didn't kill. They act like a clean-up crew. When a wolverine is around, nothing goes to waste. That makes wolverines important for the **environment**.

Scientists who study wolverines are still learning about them. These animals are hard to study because there aren't very many of them. Plus, wolverines do a great job of staying hidden.

One thing scientists do know is that they want to keep wolverines safe. So they are **protecting** the land where wolverines live. Because wolverines can travel so far in a single day, they need lots of space.

People who want to **protect** wolverines are working with ranchers and others who own land. They're helping the ranchers and landowners leave some of their land wild. By keeping some places wild, people are helping wolverines stay hidden and safe.

These conservation efforts are supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), which specializes in bringing together individuals, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and corporations to restore our nation's fish, wildlife, plants, and habitats for current and future generations.

1. What type of animal are wolverines?

- A. They are a kind of dog.
- B. They are a kind of weasel.
- C. They are a kind of cat.

2. How does the author describe the foods wolverines eat?

- A. Wolverine eat almost anything, but they love deer and small mammals.
- B. Wolverine can't eat mammals, but they love eating reptiles and fish.
- C. Wolverine eat almost anything, but not insects or small mammals.

3. Read the following sentences from the text.

Wherever they are, wolverines are important to the environment. They eat almost anything, including animals they didn't kill. They act like a clean-up crew. People who want to protect wolverines are working with ranchers and others who own land. They're helping the ranchers and landowners leave some of their land wild. By keeping some places wild, people are helping wolverines stay hidden and safe. What do you know about wolverines based on this information?

- A. Wolverine and ranchers get into fights sometimes.
- B. Wolverine clean up land for ranchers and landowners.
- C. Wolverine like to sleep in open fields.

4. How would the author probably describe wolverines?

- A. as important for the environment
- B. as bad for the environment
- C. as silly animals that are good pets

5. What is this text mostly about?

- A. the different kinds of weasels
- B. how scientists study animals like wolves
- C. why people want to protect wolverines

I Want to Buy a Computer Game

by Susan LaBella



Luis was excited. The new computer game he wanted was finally in stores. "The game is here!" he told his mom. "Can we go buy it?" "How much does it cost?" Luis's mother asked. "Thirty-five dollars," he replied. "That is a lot of money, Luis. Do you have enough to buy it yourself?" He shook his head. "You know, Luis, we have to spend our money carefully. We have to pay for our house and food. We need to buy clothing and books and gas for our car. Our money goes to things we need." "But I really want this game!" answered Luis. "What can I do?" "You get eight dollars a week for doing chores," his mom said. "Try to save it. Before long, you will have enough to pay for the game." "I do not think so," said Luis. "By then, all the games will be sold." "Try it," replied his mother. Weeks later, Luis came home very happy. "Guess what, Mama? I did what you said. I saved my chore money. Then I saw the game was on sale. Today I bought it for twenty-eight dollars." "And," his mother added, "you did it with your own money!"

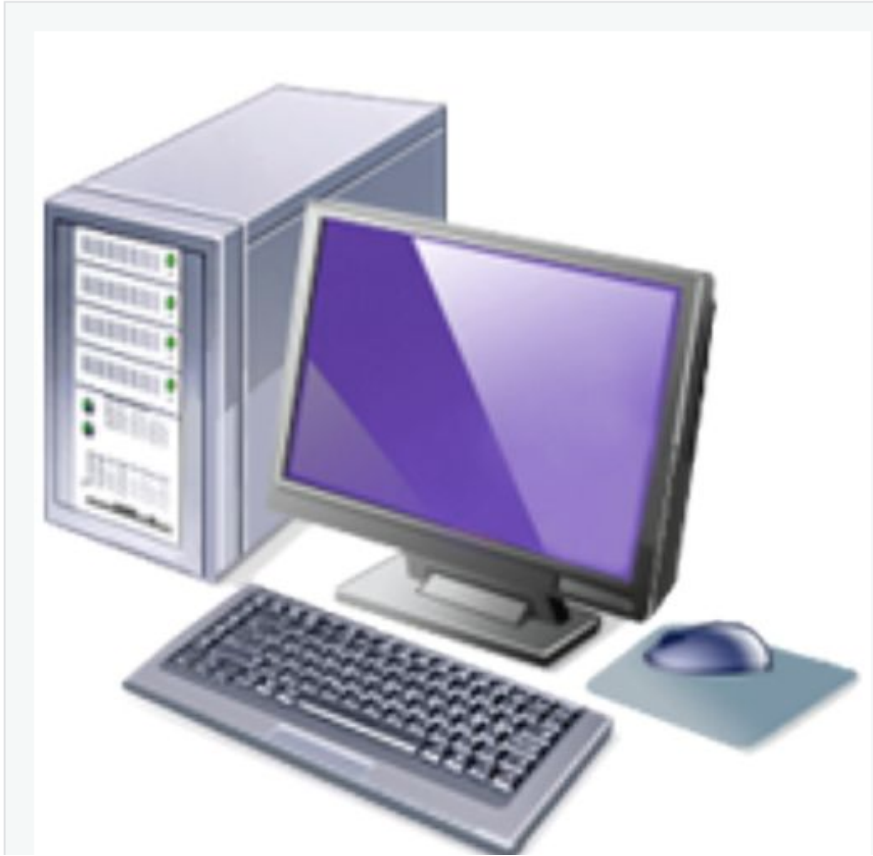
1. Why was Luis excited at the start of the story?
 - A. He managed to save up thirty-five dollars.
 - B. The new computer game he wanted was in stores.
 - C. His mother bought him a computer game as a gift.

2. What is the main problem Luis faces in the story?
 - A. He wants a new computer game, but the store has run out of that game.
 - B. He wants a new computer game, but he doesn't have enough money to buy it.
 - C. He wants a new computer game, but his mother hates all computer games.

3. Read this statement that Luis's mom said to Luis. "You know, Luis, we have to spend our money carefully. We have to pay for our house and food. We need to buy clothing and books and gas for our car. Our money goes to things we need." What conclusion can you draw from this evidence?
 - A. A house and food are things that Luis's family needs.
 - B. Luis's mom doesn't want to buy clothing, books, and gas for the car.
 - C. Having clothing, books, and gas is more important than having a house and food.

4. How does Luis's mom most likely feel about the computer game?
 - A. She feels excited because she wants to play the game, too.
 - B. She feels angry that Luis wants to spend his money on a game.
 - C. She feels like the game is not something that Luis really needs.

5. What is the main idea of this story?
 - A. The computer game that Luis wants costs thirty-five dollars.
 - B. Luis wants a new computer game, so he saves up money to buy it.
 - C. Luis's mom has to spend money on things like food, clothing, and the house.



Stacey's mother worked at home. She spent all day at the computer. Sometimes she typed. Sometimes she clicked. Sometimes she looked at videos. She was a writer, so being at the computer was her job. The computer was her most important tool. It worked very well. There was only one **problem**.

It was boring.

The computer was grey. It had black keys and a smudged screen. It was not pretty at all. Stacey's mother never **complained** about this. But Stacey could tell it **bothered** her. Anyone would be **bothered** if they had to work all day on such an ugly computer. And so, one day while her mother was taking a bath, Stacey decided to help.

She was going to make her mother's computer beautiful. "Mommy's gonna love it," she said to herself as she got to work.

The first **problem** was the color. Grey simply would not do. If Stacey were allowed to have a computer, she would want it to be pink. But Mommy's favorite color was purple. So Stacey got out her purple marker and started coloring.

As the marker dragged across the plastic computer, it made a *squinch squinch squinch* noise. Stacey did not like the sound. But she loved the way it looked.

"Much better!" she said as she finished. "Now we need some sparkle."

Stacey took out a bottle of glue and spread big globs of it on the computer's shell. She tipped whole handfuls of glitter—blue, pink, and red—all over. Most of it stuck, and she only got a little glue in her hair.

"This looks almost perfect," said Stacey. "But what's missing?"

It only took her a moment to guess the answer. "Stickers!"

Stacey's mom liked to wear hats. And Stacey had lots of stickers of hats. She had pink hats, blue hats, and orange ones. She had fedoras and top hats and cowboy hats and even a funny hat called a "porkpie hat." She put them all over Mommy's computer—right on the screen. She knew it was perfect when there was no part of the computer that wasn't covered in hats, glitter, or purple marker.

"Stacey? What are you doing with my computer?" Stacey's mom stood in the doorway, wrapped in a bathrobe, her hair dripping wet.

"Look, Mommy! I made it beautiful."

Stacey's mom screamed as loud as she ever had. She tried to peel off the stickers, but they wouldn't come off. She scraped at the glitter, but it was stuck. And she was never going to get the marker off.

“Stacey Miller,” shouted Stacey’s mom. “You are in *so much trouble!*”

Stacey began to think that maybe Mommy didn’t love it after all.

1. What does Stacey decide to make beautiful?

A. Mommy's computer

B. Mommy's room

C. Mommy's writing

2. When decorating the computer, what does Stacey do first?

A. put glitter on the computer

B. color the computer purple

C. put stickers on the computer

3. Stacey thinks she is helping her mother by making her computer look beautiful. What sentence from the story best supports this conclusion?

A. "'This looks almost perfect,' said Stacey. 'But what's missing?'"

B. "Stacey's mother never complained about this. But Stacey could tell it bothered her."

C. "And so, one day while her mother was taking a bath, Stacey decided to help."

4. Based on the story, how does Stacey's mother feel about what Stacey has done to her computer?

- A. She is angry.
- B. She is thankful.
- C. She is confused.

5. What is this story mostly about?

- A. how a girl tries to help her mother
- B. how a mother uses a computer for work
- C. how a girl is different from her mother

6. Read the following sentences: "She was a writer, so being at the computer was her job. The computer was her most important tool. It worked very well."

As used in the passage, what does the word "tool" most nearly mean?

- A. an object used to make things beautiful
- B. an object used to do work
- C. an object that stops you from finishing something

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below. Stacey wanted to make Mommy's computer beautiful, _____ Mommy did not like how Stacey changed her computer.

- A. so
- B. after
- C. but

8. What is Stacey's mother's most important tool?

9. How does Stacey make her mother's computer beautiful?

10. Stacey and her mother have different opinions about how beautiful the computer is by the end of the story. Use evidence from the story to explain whether this statement is true or not.

Name _____



D.O.L - Giraffes

Rewrite each sentence below. Add a capital letters and punctuation marks where necessary. Please write neatly.

the giraffe is the world's tallest mammal

did you know that giraffes can be over 18 feet tall

look out before that giraffe runs over you

how tall are giraffes when they are born

giraffes can go for weeks without drinking any water





Name _____

D.O.L - Dolphins

Rewrite each sentence neatly. Make corrections where they are needed. Each sentence needs at least one comma.

are dolphins fish or are they mammals

a group of dolphins is called a pod said juan

bull mako and tiger sharks frequently prey on dolphins

is the killer whale really a dolphin or is it a whale

a dolphins diet is made up mostly of fish squid and shrimp



