

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Ferdinand is eager to reach the ocean in this story, "The Shell." Read the story to find out why, and then answer the questions that follow.*

## from **The Shell**

*by Paul Koning*

"Can you hear it?" asked Ferdinand, holding the huge conch shell up to his sister's ear. His eyes were wide with excitement.

"No," said Julia, leaning away from him on the long seat in the back of the minivan. "Leave me alone."

Big sisters can be a real pain. And Ferdinand ought to know, because he has two of them.

He put the shell to his own ear. He heard a mighty rushing sound and imagined huge waves breaking on a deserted beach.

The family was headed for the ocean right now, and Ferdinand could not wait to catch his first glimpse of the sea. He had read about it in so many stories and, of course, he'd seen pictures of it on TV. But this was his first chance to actually see it, jump in it, smell the salty air, and watch the seagulls bank and wheel in the sky. There aren't too many oceans in North Georgia, their father always says, and then he tells a long story about grandpa's fishing boat off the coast of Veracruz.

1. Where did the family live?
  - A. on a beach
  - B. on a boat
  - C. in Veracruz
  - D. in North Georgia

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2. From the story we know that Ferdinand enjoys
  - A. reading stories.
  - B. teasing his sisters.
  - C. eating conch stew.
  - D. going to visit his grandpa.

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3. Which does Ferdinand want to do in this story?
  - A. collect more shells
  - B. get even with Julia
  - C. hear another of his father's stories
  - D. see the ocean

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4. In the story, Julia felt that Ferdinand was
- A. a friend.
  - B. a pest.
  - C. messy.
  - D. mean.
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*Jamie's family is moving. He is worried about it. Read the story to find out why he is worried and then answer the questions that follow.*

## **What About My Goldfish?**

*by Pamela Greenwood*

We're moving. Dad got a new job. Mom told me today. I went out on the porch and hugged my dog. Mom followed me.

"What if Freckles won't leave home?" I asked.

"Her home is with us," Mom said.

"What if we can't find her when it is time to move?"

"Don't worry, Jamie. We won't leave without her."

I took Freckles for a walk through our neighborhood. I didn't want her to forget it.

The next day I told my teacher we were going to move.

"We'll miss you, Jamie." Ms. Dillow put her hand on my shoulder. "When are you moving?"

"Dad said we have to sell our house first." Maybe no one will buy it, I thought. I told my friends at recess.

"Where?" "Why?" "When?" they asked.

"Can we still be friends?" asked Joe.

"I think so," I answered.

"Can I have your goldfish?" Terry asked. "The water will spill out if you try to move them."

Mom fixed apple slices for my after-school snack.

"What about my goldfish?" I asked.

"What about them?" Mom said.

"Freckles will miss them," I said. "She likes to watch Skunk and Merlin play together when I am at school."

"We'll take them with us," Mom said.

"Won't the water spill?"

"We'll put them in a big jar. With a lid."

"Oh," I said. "Freckles will be glad."

"What about Joe?"

Mom laughed. "We can't take *him* with us."

"Can we still be friends?"

"You can always keep your friends."

5. Who is this story mostly about?

- A. Joe
  - B. Jamie
  - C. Freckles
  - D. Ms. Dillow
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6. Why is the family in the story moving?

- A. The father got a new job.
  - B. Jamie needed a new school.
  - C. The pets needed more space.
  - D. The family wanted a bigger house.
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7. What did Jamie have for an after-school snack?

- A. cookies
  - B. goldfish
  - C. apple slices
  - D. orange slices
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8. In this story, Jamie is worried about moving because he wants to keep

- A. the same school.
  - B. his pets and friend.
  - C. the same house.
  - D. his porch swing.
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9. Who wants to keep Jamie's goldfish for him?

- A. Terry
  - B. his teacher
  - C. Joe
  - D. Merlin
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## The Lemonade Stand

Karen sat at the lemonade stand with her little brother Kevin. Kevin was only five years old, but he was good at stirring the lemonade. Since Karen was ten years old, she was good at collecting the money from the customers. It was a hot summer day, and a lot of people were outside walking their dogs. Karen and Kevin loved petting the customers' dogs. They would sell glasses of lemonade to the customers and give bowls of water to the dogs. This gave Karen an idea. She changed the sign on the table to say "Lemonade and Water for Sale." After working at the lemonade stand for an hour, Karen and Kevin had made over \$3.00. This made Kevin and Karen very happy because they wanted to buy their father a nice Father's Day present. They knew that if they worked together at the lemonade stand, they could have more fun, and they could make more money. When there weren't many customers, Karen and Kevin would talk about what they might get their father.

"What if we get him a new watch?" Kevin asked his sister.

"I don't think we'll earn enough money to get him a watch," Karen replied.

"What about a new pair of socks?" Kevin asked.

"We have enough money, but I wouldn't want to receive socks as a present, would you?" Karen replied.

"No, you are right. I don't like it when Mom gives us socks." Kevin said.

"What if we took a nice picture of the two of us working at the lemonade stand? Then we could put it in a nice frame and give it to him," Karen said.

"That's a great idea, Karen!" Kevin said, jumping out of his seat. "I'll go get Mom to take the picture for us."

"Great!" Karen exclaimed.

When Kevin came back holding his mom's hand in one hand and the camera in the other, a friend of Karen's came by with her dog. Karen asked her friend Dawn if they could use her and her dog in the picture. This would show Karen and her brother selling to customers. Dawn said that would be great, and they gathered around the lemonade stand. Karen's mom took the picture and said they could go shopping for the picture frame the next day. Karen and her brother were very happy. They had earned money and thought of a great present for their father.

10. Who took the picture?

- A. Dawn
- B. Kevin
- C. Karen
- D. Karen's mom

**Answer Key**

1. D) in North Georgia
2. A) reading stories.
3. D) see the ocean
4. B) a pest.
5. B) Jamie
6. A) The father got a new job.
7. C) apple slices
8. B) his pets and friend.
9. A) Terry
10. D) Karen's mom