3RD GRADE READING · FICTION

The Library Detective

Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 153 words | Story events and clues

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Noor loved Fridays, because Friday was library day. This week she wanted the book about the giant squid. But when she reached the shelf, its space was empty.

2 "Someone must have checked it out," said Mr. Diaz, the librarian. He typed on his computer and **frowned.** "That's **odd.** It says the book is still here."

3 Noor decided to be a detective. She looked on the cart of returned books. Not there. She checked the reading corner and under the beanbags. Not there either. Then she remembered that every library book has a number on its **spine.** The squid book's number was 594.

4 Noor walked along the shelf, reading the numbers: 591, 592, 593 … 599. There it was, tucked between two books about whales! Someone had put it back in the wrong place. Mr. Diaz laughed. "Every book has its own address," he said. "Thank you for helping this one find its way home."

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Library Detective: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the story to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. Why did Noor love Fridays?

(a) there was no school (b) it was library day (c) it was pizza day

2. Where did Noor find the book?

(a) next to the whale books (b) on the cart of returns (c) under a beanbag

3. What helped Noor find the book?

(a) the number on its spine (b) a note from a friend (c) the color of its cover

2 Put the events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, 4.

☐ Noor found the book next to books about whales.

☐ Mr. Diaz checked his computer.

☐ Noor looked under the beanbags.

☐ Noor found an empty space on the shelf.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Library Detective: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

frowned	○	○	made an unhappy or puzzled face
odd	○	○	strange
spine	○	○	the edge of a book you see on a shelf

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

What did Mr. Diaz mean when he said, "Every book has its own address"?

_____

_____

_____

_____

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Library Detective

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) it was library day
2. a) next to the whale books
3. a) the number on its spine

2 Order of events

Numbers as printed, top to bottom: 4, 2, 3, 1

1. Noor found an empty space on the shelf.
2. Mr. Diaz checked his computer.
3. Noor looked under the beanbags.
4. Noor found the book next to books about whales.

3 Word meanings

frowned: made an unhappy or puzzled face

odd: strange

spine: the edge of a book you see on a shelf

4 Written answer (sample)

Every book has a number that shows exactly where it belongs on the shelf, like a house has an address.

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