3RD GRADE READING · FICTION

The New Kid

Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 144 words | Characters' feelings

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

1 On his first day at Oak Hill Elementary, Yusuf stood by the classroom door, holding his backpack tight. Everyone already had friends. Nobody looked up when the teacher said his name.

2 At lunch, he sat alone at the end of a long table. He opened his lunch box and **stared** at his sandwich. He missed his old school and his old friends.

3 Then a girl with a **sketchbook** sat down across from him. "I'm Maya," she said. "Is that a dinosaur on your backpack?" Yusuf nodded. "It's a stegosaurus. I like drawing them." Maya's eyes lit up. "I draw them too! Want to see?"

4 For the rest of lunch, they **traded** drawings and laughed about a T. rex with tiny arms trying to clap. When the bell rang, Yusuf walked back to class beside Maya. His backpack did not feel quite so heavy anymore.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The New Kid: questions

Name _____ Date _____

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

1 Circle the best answer

1. How did Yusuf feel at the start of the story?

(a) excited and silly (b) lonely and nervous (c) angry and loud

2. How did Maya start talking to Yusuf?

(a) she asked him to play (b) she asked about his bag (c) she shared her lunch

3. What did Yusuf and Maya have in common?

(a) they had red backpacks (b) they both draw dinosaurs (c) they were both new

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

☐ Yusuf sat alone at lunch.

☐ Maya asked about his backpack.

☐ Yusuf stood by the classroom door.

☐ Yusuf walked back to class with Maya.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The New Kid: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

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

stared ○	○ gave one thing for another
sketchbook ○	○ a book of blank pages for drawing
traded ○	○ looked at something for a long time

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

What does the last sentence mean: "His backpack did not feel quite so heavy anymore"?

_____

_____

_____

_____

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The New Kid

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) lonely and nervous
2. b) she asked about his bag
3. b) they both draw dinosaurs

2 Order of events

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

1. Yusuf stood by the classroom door.
2. Yusuf sat alone at lunch.
3. Maya asked about his backpack.
4. Yusuf walked back to class with Maya.

3 Word meanings

stared: looked at something for a long time

sketchbook: a book of blank pages for drawing

traded: gave one thing for another

4 Written answer (sample)

It means Yusuf felt happier and less worried, because he had made a friend.

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