4TH GRADE READING · FICTION

The Map in the Attic

Name _____ Date _____

Fiction | 183 words | Making inferences

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

1 On a rainy Saturday, Layla and her cousin Adam were helping Grandpa clean the attic. Behind a stack of old suitcases, Adam found a folded piece of paper, yellow and soft with age. It was a hand-drawn map of Grandpa's backyard.

2 In one corner was a drawing of a tree, a small X and the words "Ten steps toward the fence." Layla's eyes grew wide. "Grandpa, is this a treasure map?" Grandpa **adjusted** his glasses and laughed quietly. "Why don't you find out?"

3 The rain had stopped, so the cousins hurried outside. The tree on the map was now **enormous,** and its roots had pushed up the grass. They counted ten steps toward the fence and started digging with garden trowels. After a few minutes, Adam's trowel hit something hard.

4 It was a rusty tin box. Inside were a marble, a baseball card, a photo of a boy with a gap-toothed grin and a note: "To whoever finds this: be **curious.** Love, Omar, age 10." Layla looked up. Grandpa's name was Omar, and he was smiling the same gap-toothed smile.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Map in the Attic: questions

Name _____ Date _____

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

1 Circle the best answer

1. Where did Adam find the map?

(a) in a tin box (b) behind old suitcases (c) under the tree

2. Why was the tree so much bigger?

(a) it was a new tree (b) the map was wrong (c) many years had passed

3. Who buried the tin box?

(a) Grandpa, as a boy (b) a stranger (c) Layla and Adam

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

- [ ] The cousins dug near the fence.
- [ ] Grandpa said, “Why don’t you find out?”
- [ ] Adam found a map in the attic.
- [ ] Layla figured out who wrote the note.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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The Map in the Attic: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

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

adjusted	○	○ moved to fix or improve
enormous	○	○ wanting to learn and explore
curious	○	○ very, very big

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

How did Layla figure out that Grandpa buried the box? Use clues from the story.

3 Draw your favorite part of the story.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: The Map in the Attic

1 Circle the best answer

1. b) behind old suitcases
2. c) many years had passed
3. a) Grandpa, as a boy

2 Order of events

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

1. Adam found a map in the attic.
2. Grandpa said, “Why don’t you find out?”
3. The cousins dug near the fence.
4. Layla figured out who wrote the note.

3 Word meanings

adjusted: moved to fix or improve

enormous: very, very big

curious: wanting to learn and explore

4 Written answer (sample)

The note was signed by Omar, age 10, and Grandpa’s name is Omar. The boy in the photo had the same gap-toothed smile as Grandpa.

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