

Name _____ Date _____

ALIEN INVASION

Bounce! Bounce! Bounce! Ethan slowly opened one of his eyes. Who was bouncing on his bed? Between the crack of his eyelids, Ethan saw a little green figure jumping on his bed. Ethan closed his eye. There is no way a green figure could be jumping on his bed. Ethan opened both of his eyes this time and saw a green figure smiling at him.

“Onal;xnc,” said the green creature.

Oh, wow! This is going to be a tough one to believe, thought Ethan to himself. He smiled and closed his eyes again. He needed time to think about this. Just then, he heard footsteps coming down the hall. It sounded like his mom.

“Ethan? What are you doing? Settle down in there,” called his mom as she passed.

“Mom, it’s not me!” yelled Ethan.

“Right, Ethan,” answered Mom.

“I knew it,” said Ethan. “Mom, come here!”

“Just a minute!” called Mom.

There was a look of panic on the face of the green creature. It seemed to sense something bad was going to happen. It hopped off the bed and scurried over to the closet door.

A few moments later, Ethan’s mom came through the door.

“Okay, Ethan, let’s hear your story,” said Mom.

“Alright, here’s my story: I woke up and there was a little green creature, sort of like an alien, sitting right on my bed,” explained Ethan.

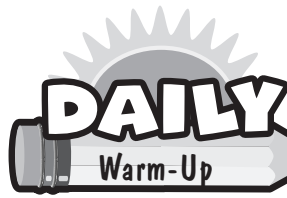
“Right,” said Mom.

“You think I’m crazy, but look inside the closet and you will see proof!” said Ethan. Ethan’s mom walked over to the closet and opened the door.



STORY QUESTIONS

- A theme to this story could be . . .
 - “There he goes again.”
 - “Make a wish, and it will come true.”
 - “If there’s a will, there’s a way.”
 - “Seeing is believing.”
- According to the passage, how did Ethan’s mother feel about Ethan’s story?
 - She believed him.
 - She made plans to see if he was right.
 - She grounded Ethan for telling tall tales.
 - none of the above
- The best way to find the answer to the previous question is to . . .
 - try to remember.
 - reread the first paragraph and determine the main idea.
 - reread the entire passage.
 - skim the passage searching for clues about the mother’s reaction.



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MESSY ROOM

It didn't take long for Jennie's room to get messy. She was always in a hurry. Her soccer jersey seemed to have a permanent home on the floor, and the garbage can seemed to be taking on a life of its own. Jennie's mom had tried every tactic in the book to get Jennie to clean her room, but it was to no avail.

One lazy afternoon, Jennie was in her bedroom with the instructions that she was not to come out until it was clean. After Jennie had been inside her room for about two hours, her little sister Nellie went to check on her. She knocked on the door: no answer. Nellie called, "Jen?" There was still no answer. Not knowing what else to do, Nellie went downstairs.

That night when it came time for dinner, Jennie's father called her down for dinner.

"Her room must really be a mess this time," said Mother calmly.

Sitting around the dining room table, Jennie's family began to eat their spaghetti. The family could hear someone calling, "Help!" They all looked at one another.

"That sounds like Jennie," said Nellie. The family jumped to their feet and ran up the stairs. They flung open the door to see Jennie's room still a pile of mess.

"Jennie, where are you?" asked Father.

"I'm under here," called Jennie. "I'm stuck in my dollhouse and can't get out!"

Jennie's family all knelt down and peered through the windows of the dollhouse. There sat a miniature Jennie on the dollhouse floor.

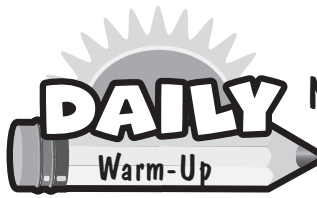


STORY QUESTIONS

- Did Jennie really shrink to fit in the dollhouse?
 - Yes. Her mother sent her to her room in the dollhouse.
 - Yes. Somehow she shrunk while cleaning her room.
 - No. Nellie just told her parents that's where she was.
 - No. Jennie was making up the creature.
- What is the meaning of the word *tactic* as used in the story?

a. story	c. method
b. tack	d. lengthy
- What event in this story indicates that it is a fantasy story?

a. eating spaghetti	c. no answer when called
b. cleaning the room	d. Jennie fitting inside a dollhouse



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READY, SET, FLOAT

Gregory invited his friend Jethro over to play a board game he got for his birthday. He was excited to play the game. He had read the directions last night in bed and could hardly sleep because it sounded so exciting.

Gregory waited at the window until he saw Jethro walking down the sidewalk.

“Yes! He’s here!” whispered Gregory, and he thrust his fist in the air.

Jethro came in and took off his coat. He dusted the snowflakes off his collar. It had just started to snow.

Gregory had the game board set up with all the pieces. He immediately began explaining the rules and directions. Jethro nodded his head in understanding, and it wasn’t long before the two were ready to begin.

Gregory rolled the die first. He began counting the number of spaces and saw that he landed on the “atmosphere space” on the game board. As Gregory set his token down on the space, he felt a strange sensation. Suddenly, he noticed his hair standing up in the air.

“What’s going on?” asked Gregory. Soon he felt his hands rising upwards along with his body and his feet. Before he knew it, he was touching the ceiling.

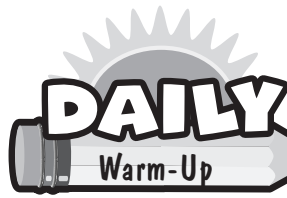
“Oh, wow, ” said Jethro in a stunned voice. “What happened? What are you doing?”

“I don’t know,” said Gregory. “You try it. Roll a six and land on this space. See what happens to you.”

“This is freaky!” exclaimed Jethro, rolling the die.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which words could describe Gregory at one point in the story?
 - confused
 - annoyed
 - furious
 - coy
- Which of the following statements is not accurate?
 - Jethro was interested in playing the game with Gregory.
 - Gregory was trying to scare Jethro.
 - When Gregory landed on the space, he began floating in the air.
 - There isn’t an ending to this story.
- What is the problem in the story?
 - Gregory is feeling sorry for himself.
 - Jethro thinks his friend is a little crazy.
 - Something strange is happening while the boys are playing the game.
 - Gregory is nervous about what his parents will think.



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DOUBLE TROUBLE

“Mr. Franson, would you please send Samantha Jacobs to the principal’s office?” the intercom announced without warning.

Mr. Franson looked up at Samantha and motioned towards the door. Samantha had a confused and scared look on her face. Why would the principal need to see her?

“It’s okay,” Mr. Franson said calmly. “I’m sure he just has a question for you or a paper that needs to be signed. Hurry back so you can share your report.”

Samantha slowly walked down the corridor towards the principal’s office. She had made it all the way to fifth grade without being summoned here. Her mind was racing, trying to think of a reason why she needed to go now.

“There you are,” said Principal Stewart. “I was hoping you were in school today. Come on in to my office.”

Samantha followed Mr. Stewart inside and sat down.

“It seems we have something unusual going on,” he said. You see, we had a new student report to school today, and she said that her name was Samantha Jacobs. The address she listed as her home address matches yours exactly. Her phone number is the same, as well.”

“Mr. Stewart, I don’t know what’s going on. I’ve never heard of this Samantha,” said Samantha.

“The interesting part is that we looked up the name Samantha Jacobs in the school records, and there was a Samantha Jacobs that attended this same school a hundred years ago,” continued Mr. Stewart. Samantha’s jaw dropped to the floor.



STORY QUESTIONS

- According to the story, Samantha was sent to the principal’s office because . . .
 - she was caught cheating.
 - she was being given an award.
 - she was being questioned about a new student.
 - she was being asked about a ghost.
- Which sentence from the story would help you answer the previous question?
 - “Mr. Franson, would you please send Samantha Jacobs to the principal’s office?”
 - “You see, we had a new student report to school today, and she said that her name was Samantha Jacobs.”
 - “There you are,” said Principal Stewart.
 - Samantha’s jaw dropped to the floor.
- What is the climax in this reading passage?
 - Samantha is afraid of going to the principal’s office.
 - Samantha knew that she was going to be in trouble.
 - Samantha was accused of having a twin at school.
 - none of the above