Making Inferences

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

The Gray Wall on Maple Street

For three Saturdays in a row, Andre's big brother, Jalen, left the house before breakfast. He carried an old backpack that clinked when he walked. Each afternoon he came home tired, with blue and yellow spots on his sneakers.

"Where do you go?" Andre asked on the third Saturday.

"Just out," Jalen said. He grabbed an apple from the bowl and hurried upstairs. A moment later, Andre heard the bathroom tap running for a long time.

Andre decided to look for clues. In the garage, he found three empty cans lined up on a shelf. Each one had a drippy blue or yellow stripe down its side. In the recycling bin, he found a crumpled flyer. It showed the gray wall behind the Maple Street library. Across the top, big letters said "Help Us Brighten Our Block!"

Andre also remembered something Mom had said at dinner. Their little sister, Nia, had been sad for weeks. Her favorite park bench had been taken away. "She sat there every day after story time," Mom had said. "She loved watching the ducks on the pond."

On Sunday morning, Jalen knocked on Andre's door. "Want to come for a walk?" he asked. "Bring Nia. And don't tell her where we're going."

The three of them walked to Maple Street. When they turned the corner, Andre stopped. The gray library wall was gone. In its place was a painted pond, bright blue and wide. Yellow ducks floated across it. Painted cattails swayed at the edges. In front of the wall, a new wooden bench faced the painting.

Nia ran to the bench and climbed on. Then she pointed at one duck near the corner. It wore a tiny pink bow, just like the one on her favorite hat.

Jalen pretended to study the sky. But Andre noticed he was smiling so wide that his ears moved.

1. Where was Jalen most likely going on Saturdays?
   - to soccer practice at the park
   - to work at the library desk
   - to help paint the library wall
   - to the pond to watch the ducks

2. Which clue first suggests that Jalen was painting?
   - His sneakers had blue and yellow spots.
   - He left the house before breakfast.
   - He looked tired each afternoon.
   - He hurried upstairs with an apple.

3. Why did the bathroom circle run for a long time?
   - Jalen was scrubbing paint off his hands.
   - Jalen was filling a bucket of water.
   - Jalen was taking a bath before bed.
   - Jalen was washing the apple he took.

4. Why did Jalen keep his Saturdays a secret?
   He wanted the painting to be a surprise.
   He did not like spending time with Andre.
   He had promised the library to tell no one.
   He was in trouble and hid it from Mom.

5. Who was the painting most likely meant to cheer up?
   the people at the library Mom, who talked at dinner Nia, who missed her bench
   Andre, who asked questions

6. What can you infer about the duck with the pink bow?
   It was copied from the flyer.
   A worker added it by mistake.
   Nia painted it on a different day.
   Jalen painted it just for Nia.

7. How does Jalen most likely feel at the end?
   proud, though he tries to hide it
   upset, though he tries to smile
   bored, since he has seen it before
   worried that Nia will not like it

8. Why did Jalen pretend to study the sky?
   He thought it was going to rain.
   He was looking for birds to paint.
   He was checking the time by the sun.
   He did not want to make a fuss about his work.

9. The flyer said, "Help Us Brighten Our Block!" What does brighten mean?
   make more colorful and cheerful
   build taller and bigger
   wash with soap and water
   make quieter and calmer

10. Which idea is NOT supported by the story?
    The wall used to be gray.
    Jalen painted the whole wall alone.
    Jalen cares about his sister.
    Nia likes watching ducks.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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