Characters, Setting, and Plot

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Bao's Torn Drum

The spring concert at Maple Creek School was one hour away. Bao waited in the music room with his class. He played the big drum, and he had practiced every day for a month.

Bao lifted the drum from its stand. His heart sank. The top of the drum had a long tear in it! When he tapped it, it made a flat buzzing sound.

Bao did not give up. He ran to find Mr. Ortiz, the music teacher. Mr. Ortiz looked at the drum and rubbed his chin. "We have an old drum in the storage closet," he said. "It might be dusty, but it should work."

Bao and his friend Elsie dug through the closet. Behind a pile of music stands, they found the old drum. Elsie wiped it clean with a cloth. Bao tightened the screws on the sides until the top was firm.

That evening, Bao stood on the stage under the bright lights. He played every beat right on time. When the song ended, the crowd clapped loudly. Bao smiled at Elsie from across the stage.

1. Who is the main character in this story?

   Bao Mr. Ortiz Elsie

2. Where is Bao when the story begins?

   in a storage closet at home

   on the stage under the lights

   in the music room at school

3. What is Bao's problem?

   His drum has a long tear.

   He forgot the concert song.

   He cannot find the music room.

4. How does Bao feel when he sees the tear? Which clue shows it?

   upset, because his heart sank

   proud, because he smiled at Elsie

   calm, because he rubbed his chin

5. Who helps Bao search the storage closet?

Mr. Ortiz his friend Elsie his whole class

6. How is Bao's problem solved?

He uses an old drum from the closet.

Elsie plays the drum for him.

Mr. Ortiz buys him a new drum.

7. Which word best describes Bao?

determined shy careless

8. When and where does the last part of the story happen?

one month later, in the closet

that evening, on the stage

the next morning, in class

9. Bao tightened the screws until the top was firm. What does firm mean?

shiny and clean soft and floppy hard and not loose

10. What happens at the end of the story?

Bao plays every beat on time.

Bao finds the tear in the drum.

Elsie wipes the old drum clean.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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