Characters, Setting, and Plot

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

The Paper Boat Race

Every June, the town of Willow Bend held a paper boat race on Clover Creek. Kids lined up on the little wooden bridge with their boats.

Ivy had folded her boat from blue paper. She was sure it would win. But when she set it on the water, it soaked up the creek. In a minute, the boat sagged and sank.

Ivy's cheeks turned pink. She wanted to run home. Instead, she watched the other boats float away. One boat, made by a boy named Omar, bobbed along without getting wet. "How does yours stay dry?" Ivy asked.

Omar smiled. "I rubbed an old candle all over the paper," he said. "The wax keeps the water out."

Ivy thanked him and got to work. She folded a new boat and rubbed it with a candle from the craft table. Then she waited for the next race.

This time, her boat zipped under the bridge and past the big rock. It came in third place. Ivy cheered as loudly as Omar did.

1. Where does the story take place?

   at a lake near Ivy's school

   at Clover Creek in Willow Bend

   at a swimming pool in town

2. When does the boat race happen?

   every winter every June on Ivy's birthday

3. What is Ivy's problem?

   Her boat floats past the finish too fast.

   Her paper boat soaks up water and sinks.

   She cannot find any paper for a boat.

4. How does Ivy feel when her boat sinks? Which clue shows it?

embarrassed, because her cheeks turned pink

excited, because she cheered loudly

calm, because she watched the boats

5. Which character helps Ivy?

Ivy's older sister a boy named Omar the race judge

6. What did Ivy do instead of running home?

She watched the other boats.

She rubbed wax on Omar's boat.

She folded a boat of red paper.

7. How does Ivy solve her problem?

She borrows Omar's boat to race.

She uses thicker blue paper.

She rubs candle wax on a new boat.

8. What does Ivy's choice to try again show about her?

She is rude to other racers.

She is too scared to race.

She is willing to keep trying.

9. The boat sagged and sank. What does sagged mean?

dried off drooped down sped up

10. How does the story end?

Omar's boat comes in last place.

Ivy's boat sinks a second time.

Ivy's boat comes in third place.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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