Use Evidence in Stories

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle the best reason for each why question.

READ THIS FIRST

The Folded Birds

When Aditi's grandmother came to live with them in September, she brought one suitcase, a box of colored paper, and very little English. She called Aditi "beta" and smoothed her hair every morning. She also started packing Aditi's lunch.

In the afternoons, her grandmother sat by the window, folding paper while the radio played songs Aditi did not know. Small birds, boats, and stars collected on the windowsill.

At first, Aditi liked it. Then, on the third day, she found something tucked beside her sandwich: a tiny paper bird, folded from bright orange paper. Two girls at her table leaned over to look.

"What is that?" asked Kendra. "Did your grandma make you a toy?"

Aditi's face grew hot. She shoved the bird into her backpack. "It's nothing," she said.

That evening, she told her grandmother, "You don't have to put things in my lunch. I'm not little." Her grandmother nodded slowly. The next day, there was no paper bird. There was no bird the day after that, either.

Aditi thought she would feel relieved. Instead, each time she opened her lunch, she felt as if she had forgotten something. At home, she noticed that the box of colored paper sat on the shelf, closed.

On Friday, her class had indoor recess because of rain. Rain streamed down the glass. Kendra was sitting alone by the window, trying to fold a square of notebook paper. She kept unfolding it and starting over.

"What are you making?" Aditi asked.

"A crane," Kendra said. "My cousin can make them. I can't get the head part right."

Aditi reached into her backpack. The orange bird was still there, a little crumpled. She smoothed it out on the desk. "My grandmother made this," she said. She was surprised to hear that her voice sounded proud.

Kendra's eyes went wide. "Can she show us how?"

That night, Aditi took the box of colored paper down from the shelf and set it on the kitchen table. Her grandmother looked at the box, then at Aditi.

"Teach me?" Aditi asked. "And maybe my friend too?"

Her grandmother didn't answer with words. She opened the box, chose a sheet of blue paper, and folded it once, very slowly, so Aditi could see.

On Monday, two paper birds were tucked in Aditi's lunch. One was blue, and one was green. Aditi gave the green one to Kendra.

Kendra held it up to the light. "Now I just need to learn the head part," she said, and both girls laughed.

1. Why did the grandmother answer 'not with words'?
   - She was still upset and refused to speak.
   - She had forgotten how to make the birds.
   - She knew little English, so she showed instead.
   - She wanted Aditi to read the directions.

2. Why did Aditi's face grow hot at lunch?
   She was embarrassed that the girls saw the bird.
   She was proud that her grandmother made a gift.
   She was angry that her sandwich had gone missing.
   She was upset that Kendra had taken the bird.

3. Why did Aditi's voice sound proud when she showed Kendra the bird?
   Her grandmother had told her to show the bird.
   Kendra had asked if she could borrow the bird.
   She saw her grandmother's skill was special.
   She had folded the bird all by herself.

4. Why did Aditi take the box of colored paper down from the shelf?
   She wanted to learn and share it with a friend.
   Kendra had asked to borrow the whole box.
   She needed colored paper for a school project.
   She planned to throw all of the paper away.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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