Find the Theme

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Circle the best reason.

READ THIS FIRST

Hana's Paper Crane

Hana wanted to win the paper crane contest at the library. The winner's crane would hang in the front window for a whole month. On Friday afternoon, she grabbed a square of shiny red paper and started folding as fast as she could.

Her folds were quick, but they were not neat. The corners did not quite meet. When she pulled the wings open, the crane's neck bent sideways and one wing tore. Hana crumpled it into a ball. "This is impossible," she said.

Her grandmother was sitting by the window, mending a sweater. She set down her needle and picked up a fresh square. "Watch my hands," she said. She folded slowly. She pressed each crease with her thumbnail before moving on. If a corner was off, she unfolded it and tried again.

Hana sighed, but she copied her grandmother. It took much longer. Her fingers wanted to hurry, so she counted to three before each new fold. After twenty minutes, she held up a crane with sharp wings and a straight neck.

On Saturday, Hana did not win the contest. A boy named Felix made a crane the size of a dinner plate. Still, the librarian put Hana's crane on a shelf near the door. She said it was one of the neatest cranes she had ever seen.

That night, Hana taught her little brother to fold a crane. "Go slowly," she told him. "Press every crease."

1. Why did Hana count to three before each new fold?
   - to keep track of her folds
   - to finish before the contest
   - to stop herself from hurrying

2. Why did Hana's first crane come out crooked?
   - She used a square of paper that was too small.
   - She had never folded paper before that day.
   - She folded too fast to line up the corners.

3. Why did the librarian put Hana's crane on a shelf near the door?
   - She said it was one of the neatest she had ever seen.
   - It was the biggest crane that anyone folded that day.
   - Hana had asked her to hang it near the front door.

4. Why did Hana tell her brother, "Go slowly"?
   - She had learned that slow, careful folds work best.
   - She wanted her brother to finish his crane before Felix.
   - She was tired of folding cranes after a long day.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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