

READING COMPREHENSION

4

“MATTHEW”

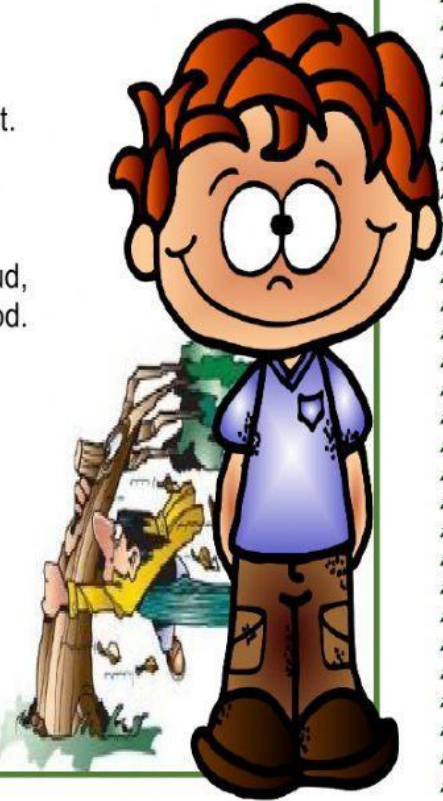
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My nephew Matthew is kind and polite,
not like the other one that came in the night...
he came like a monster and blew out the light,
and howled in the darkness; he was ready for a fight.

My nephew Matthew is thoughtful and good,
not like the other one that brought terror and flood,
and ripped holes in our roof, turned the yard into mud,
left a trail of destruction, like he was hunting for blood.

My nephew Matthew plays sports and games.
not like the wild one, who refused to be tamed,
who knocked down the pear tree,
poured down buckets of rain,
like on a mission to damage, hurt, and maim.

How can two Matthews be so different I wonder,
one quiet and calm, the other full of thunder?
but then, it's no mystery, no secret to uncover...
My Matthew, my nephew, is the son of my brother.



1. How does the poet describe her nephew Matthew in verse **ONE** of the poem?
2. To what is the other Matthew compared to in verse **ONE** of the poem?
3. To what does the word “**howled**” refer as used in verse **ONE** of the poem?

4. Based on information provided in the poem, state **ONE** example of damages caused by the other Matthew.
5. Choose the word that describes the poet's mood when talking about her nephew Matthew.
6. "**Matthew came like a thief in the night and darkened the city when it blew down the lights.**"
From that statement we can conclude that Matthew is a...
7. Write the word from verse **TWO** of the poem which helps us to conclude that the writer's nephew was a considerate individual?
8. "**Matthew was on a mission to damage and maim anyone in its path.**"
Choose **TWO** words from the box below that are **synonyms** for the word maim.
- | | | | |
|--------|--------|------|-------|
| repair | injure | cure | wound |
|--------|--------|------|-------|
9. Write the phrase from verse **FOUR** of the poem which helps us conclude that the other Matthew was very loud.

