



Find a Penny

Read the text.

Josh was walking to school with some of his friends. They saw a bright, shiny penny on the sidewalk. Josh stepped on it. "Hey," said Anna. "Aren't you gonna pick it up?"

"Right," said Josh sarcastically. "'Find a penny pick it up, then all day you'll have good luck.' If it was a quarter, maybe . . ." He kicked it towards the sewer grate and they continued on their way.

They heard the first bell as they rounded the corner to the school. They started running. On the way up the steps, Josh wiped out and his backpack went flying. He limped down the hallway after Anna, Tio, and Zale. The last bell rang as Josh hit the door. "Tardy, Josh," said Ms. Clockswatch. "One more and you will have an extra assignment." The classroom phone rang. As Ms. Clockswatch turned her back to the doorway to answer it, Jade quietly slipped into the classroom and took her seat. She wiped her brow and gave a thumbs-up to Anna. She had narrowly escaped an extra assignment. "Let's begin by handing in our reading assignments," Ms. Clockswatch said as she turned back towards them. Josh pulled out his folder. His assignment was nowhere to be found! "But I spent three hours on it last night," he wailed.

The morning went from bad to worse. During a three-minute fact test, Josh's pencil lead fell out. Returning from the sharpener, he saw Jade put down her pencil and turn over her test. He wrote two answers and time was called. During science, his tray tipped over. Dirt, water, a plant, and science tools fell to the floor. An intercom announcement preceded the lunch bell. "The following students' artwork was selected for the City Art Fair: Haley Goodbrush, Gil Claymore, Jade Coinfinder . . ."

Jade requested a piece of pepperoni pizza. "Wow, huge slice!" she said. "Mmmm, looks good," thought Josh. He asked for one, too. "Sorry," said Mr. Vanfoods, "I just served the last one."

Josh flopped into a seat next to his friends. He eyed Jade's cheese-laden entrée. "You sure seem to be having a good day today," he muttered.

Jade laughed, "Yeah, you'll never guess what I picked up next to a sewer grate this morning . . ."





Find a Penny (continued)

foreshadowing / sequencing

Answer the questions about the story.

1. What kind of day is Josh having?

Highlight specific details in the story that support your answer.

2. What event foreshadowed Josh's day?

3. What kind of day is Jade having?

Highlight three details in the story that support your answer.

4. What did Jade pick up?

5. What do you think Josh will do the next time he sees a penny?

Explain your answer.

Number the events from 1 to 8 to put them in the correct sequence.

- ___ 1. Josh misses out on pepperoni pizza.
- ___ 2. Josh's science tray tips over.
- ___ 3. Jade comes into class late.
- ___ 4. Josh trips on the school steps.
- ___ 5. An announcement is made that Jade's artwork will be in the City Art Show.
- ___ 6. Josh kicks a penny.
- ___ 7. Jade completes her math facts quiz.
- ___ 8. Josh can't find his reading assignment.

