



The Argument

Mom could hear the girls squabbling all the way in the kitchen. It was the third time this week that the sisters had been arguing over something or fighting about nothing. A few minutes later Maria stormed through kitchen and slammed the door as she left.

"Come back here, young lady," Mom firmly stated in her best mother tone of voice. Maria turned around and came back into the kitchen.

"I can't stand living with Felicia another minute," Maria blurted out. "I don't ever want to talk to her again!"

Mom immediately called out, "Felicia, come to the kitchen right now."

While Felicia was on her way, Mom took two of the kitchen chairs and placed them opposite each other but very close together.

"Maria, you sit here and Felicia you sit there." The girls sat facing each other, knees almost touching. "Now you look each other in the eye for five minutes," Mom ordered while she stood there as a referee.

The sisters squirmed at first but Mom was adamant that they stay staring icily at each other for five minutes, saying something about each minute they didn't make eye contact meant another minute sitting in the chairs. They both wanted out so all they could do was sit there and look at each other.

Felicia looked at Maria's pouting face while Maria looked at Felicia's angry scowl. They each thought the other one looked ridiculous! In reality, they were being ridiculous to fight and be mad at each other over nothing.

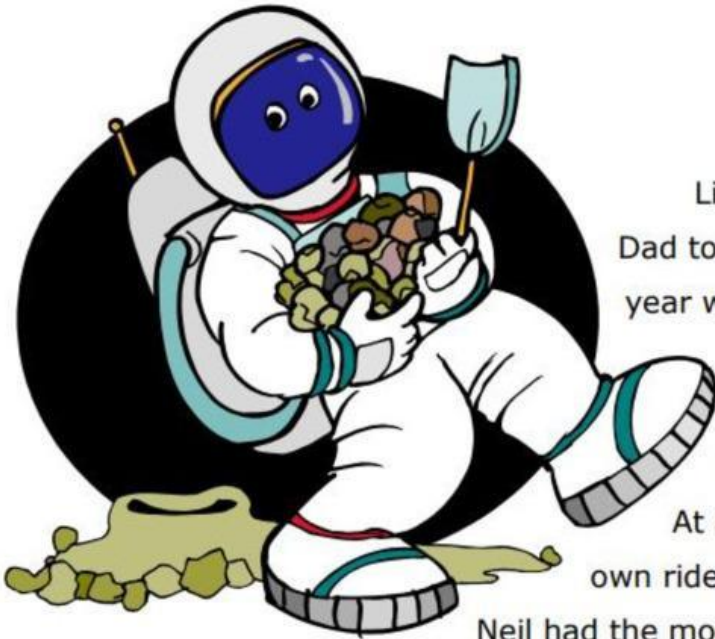
Soon Maria couldn't stand it any longer and began giggling and so did Felicia. They giggled and laughed.

Mom wisely didn't say anything except, "Okay girls, you can go now."

Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. What were Maria and Felicia fighting about?
 - a. Make-up
 - b. Homework
 - c. Nothing
2. Why was Maria leaving the house?
 - a. Because she didn't want to be near Felicia
 - b. It was time to go to school
 - c. She was visiting a friend
3. In what room of the house does the story take place?
 - a. The girls' bedroom
 - b. The kitchen
 - c. The dining room
4. How did Mom place the chairs?
 - a. Side-by-side
 - b. Back-to-back
 - c. Facing each other
5. Sitting there what part of the girls was almost touching?
 - a. Hands
 - b. Knees
 - c. Feet
6. At the end of the story both girls were
 - a. Giggling
 - b. Crying
 - c. Mad



Into Space

Little Neil was just two years old when his Dad took him to watch an airplane race. The year was 1932 and in those days air shows featured brightly colored aircraft piloted by daredevils. At that early age Neil was already fascinated with flying. At age four, Neil went with his Dad for their own ride in an airplane. While Dad was nervous, Neil had the most wonderful time.

Later, Neil spent time making balsa wood model airplanes. Then he graduated to more complicated plastic models. He paid for his models and lots of flying magazines by mowing lawns.

When Neil was thirteen, the family moved to a new town. Neil adapted to a new school, joined the Boy Scouts, and played in the school band. He still flew model airplanes and immersed himself in the night sky using a neighbor's telescope.

The fascination with flying never diminished. Neil was old enough to walk to the nearby airport to watch the planes. As a part-time job he washed planes and made extra money. Then he realized that he wanted to learn to be a pilot himself but lessons cost \$9 an hour. Why, Neil would need to work for 25 hours at his other jobs to afford just one lesson, but it was well worth all the hard work.

Neil asked his parents for permission and, knowing how much he loved airplanes, they agreed that he could learn to fly an airplane. Even though he couldn't get a driver's license for a car, at age 16 Neil had his student pilot's license. When Neil grew up he became a U.S. Navy fighter pilot and then a test pilot for advanced rocket-powered aircraft.

Have you guessed which Neil the story is about? On July 20, 1969 astronaut Neil Armstrong was the first human to set foot on the moon with the famous words, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. How old was Neil when he took his first airplane ride?
 - a. 2
 - b. 4
 - c. 16
2. What material were Neil's first model airplanes made from?
 - a. Plastic
 - b. Metal
 - c. Wood
3. Besides model airplanes, what else did Neil like to buy?
 - a. Magazines
 - b. Books
 - c. Toys
4. How much did flying lessons cost when Neil wanted to fly?
 - a. \$9 an hour
 - b. \$25 an hour
 - c. \$125 an hour
5. How old was Neil when he obtained his student pilot's license?
 - a. 12
 - b. 16
 - c. 20
6. Neil was a fighter pilot for the U.S.
 - a. Navy
 - b. Air Force
 - c. Marines