

Name: _____

Reading Comprehension



Best Friend Blues

Alexa and Brittany were best friends. They'd known each other since Brittany moved next door in the 2nd grade. They hung out almost every day after school... when they were getting along that is.

They were very different people. Alex did great with her school work, read a lot of books and took ballet classes. Brittany, on the other hand, would rather play soccer, chat with the other kids at school, and rarely sat still for long enough to finish reading a chapter of a book.

Often, Alex and Brittany would play together at the park across the street. They'd play on the playground, play tag with a group of the neighborhood kids, or play soccer. If it was raining outside, they'd go in one of their houses to make crafts, play video games, or do their nails. Some days they could spend hours together without a single problem, but other days they just could not agree on what to do.

"Come on, let's play on the playground. We've played soccer for the last three days!" Alexa said.

"They just cut the grass, I love playing soccer when the grass is nice and short. I don't want to play on the playground," Brittany replied.

"We always do what you want to do Brittany, it's my turn to choose." Alexa was getting frustrated.

"Fine, go play on the playground by yourself, I'm playing soccer," Brittany shouted.

Alexa left. She was fuming. When she got home, she realized she still had Brittany's notebook. Well, I'm not giving it back today. I'm too mad at her. Alexa thought.

The next day at school, their teacher asked for their notebooks. Brittany didn't have hers, and asked Mrs. Stone if she could bring it in tomorrow instead. Mrs. Stone let us have one late assignment a month, but Brittany had already used hers. Brittany looked upset, and walked quietly back to her desk. Alex was having an internal conflict. She knew she should tell Mrs. Stone that she had the notebook, but she was still mad at Brittany for not compromising with her at the park yesterday.

When it was time for lunch, Alex hung back to talk with Mrs. Stone.

"Mrs. Stone, I have Brittany's notebook. I should have said something earlier, but Brittany and I had a problem yesterday, and I'm still mad at her. Would you be able to help us solve our problem?" Alexa asked.

"Thank you for being honest, Alexa. I'm sure Brittany will appreciate that you gave me her notebook when you could have made her get another low mark instead. I'm glad you asked

for help solving the problem. It's really hard to solve a problem by yourself when you're still feeling upset, so this is a good solution."

At recess, Mrs. Stone sat and talked with the girls. They each revealed that they get frustrated with the other person a lot because they don't always want to do the same things, but they realized that they never really solved their problem. One of them just always went home. Mrs. Stone helped them realize that maybe they didn't have to play together every day to be best friends. They decided to just play together a couple times a week, and take turns picking the activity. Alexa and Brittany were hopeful that this would solve a lot of the arguments they'd been having lately!

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Answer the following questions from the story.

1. Is this story **fiction** or **non-fiction**? _____

2. What is the author's purpose for writing this story?

to persuade

to inform

to entertain

3. Name the two main characters in the story.

_____ and _____

4. What was the problem in the story?

5. Put the plot of the story in the correct sequence using the numbers 1 - 5.

_____ Alexa admitted to Mrs. Stone she had Brittany's notebook.

_____ Mrs. Stone helped their girls solve their problem.

_____ Mrs. Stone asked the students for their notebooks.

_____ Brittany and Alexa argued about what to play.

_____ Mrs. Stone told Alexa she did the right thing.