DAILY Warm-Up 12

Name _____ Date _____

PEANUT ALLERGIES

Dear Principal Rollins,

Recently a person at our school was diagnosed with having an allergy to peanuts. I have heard of this situation before and I realize it can be a serious problem. People that have allergies to peanuts can die before receiving the necessary treatment. Within seconds a reaction can appear, leaving the victim only few short minutes to counteract the attack. These individuals must avoid anything containing peanuts or peanut oil. Sometimes just smelling or touching peanut oil and/or dust can cause a reaction.

Since that time, all of the school personnel have overreacted. We are no longer allowed to bring candy to school or bring peanut butter sandwiches in our lunches. The crackdown on peanuts has been ridiculous. The school cafeteria has changed all menus eliminating anything that looks or smells like a peanut. Why should all of the students at the school be punished because one kid has allergy problems? Why doesn't this student eat lunch in an isolated area far from the 600 students and their lunches? It's not right to punish many people just because a certain food is harmful to a small number of people.

Understandably, the school is trying to avoid a lawsuit. But instead of overreacting, the school could use this as a wonderful educational opportunity. Teach students about peanut allergies and how these can be harmful and deadly. Inform the students of the precautions that can be taken. They are many ways to protect kids without punishing everyone.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of the word *counteract* as used in this passage?
   a. cancel out b. assist c. react
2. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?
   a. Why should all of the students at the school be punished because one kid has allergy problems?
   b. Why doesn't this student eat lunch in an isolated area far from the 600 students and their lunches?
   c. It's not right to punish many people just because of a certain food is harmful to a small number of people.
3. Which statement shows the author's opinion about the peanut policy changes?
   a. The crackdown on peanuts has been ridiculous.
   b. These individuals must avoid anything containing peanuts or peanut oil.
   c. Sometimes just smelling or touching peanut oil can cause a reaction.
   d. It doesn't take long for a person with an allergy to die from exposure.

LIVEWORKSHEETS