A Muddy Lesson

Retell key events and find the lesson.

2.RL.2 "Retell stories, those from various cultures and genres, and determine their central message/theme, lesson, or moral."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the beginning, middle, and end. Underline one event in each paragraph that helps you retell the story.

The Pumpkin Wagon

1. Nia wanted to roll a wagon of pumpkins to the school gate. One wheel sank into soft mud. She pulled hard, but the wagon did not move. Her friend Bo called, "Do you need a hand?" Nia shook her head.

2. Nia pulled again. The wheel sank even deeper. At last, she asked Bo for help. Bo found a flat board near the garden shed. Together, they set the board in front of the wheel and pushed the wagon onto it.

3. The wagon rolled across the board and out of the mud. At the gate, Nia gave Bo a pumpkin to take home. "I thought I had to do it alone," she said. "Asking you helped us both."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Retell the beginning. What was Nia trying to do, and what went wrong?

2. Retell how Nia and Bo got the wagon moving again.

3. What lesson does the story teach? Tell how the ending shows it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Retell the whole story as Nia in three sentences. Tell what happened first, next, and last. Add a fourth sentence telling what Nia learned, without copying her words from the story.

A Muddy Lesson

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 to show the beginning, middle, and end. Underline one event in each paragraph that helps you retell the story. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Retell the beginning. What was Nia trying to do, and what went wrong?	**Nia was taking a wagon of pumpkins to the school gate when a wheel got stuck in the mud.**
2	Retell how Nia and Bo got the wagon moving again.	**Nia asked Bo for help. They put a board in front of the wheel and pushed the wagon onto it.**
3	What lesson does the story teach? Tell how the ending shows it.	**Asking for help can make a hard job easier. Nia and Bo got the wagon free together, and Nia shared a pumpkin with Bo.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I tried to pull a wagon of pumpkins, but its wheel got stuck in the mud. When I could not free it, I asked Bo to help, and we put a board in front of the wheel. We pushed the wagon onto the board and rolled it to the gate, where I gave Bo a pumpkin. I learned that asking for help can make a hard job easier.

Accept retellings that keep the main events in order. Accept lessons about asking for help or working together when supported by an event from the story.