Fox Takes the Stage

A model story about showing how characters respond

3.W.3.b "Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what characters say, and circle two actions that show how they respond to a problem.

The Missing Fox

1. The class puppet show was about to begin. Maya reached into the box for the fox puppet, but her hand found only a loose button. She checked under the table. Nothing. “We cannot start without Fox,” she whispered to Ben. Her cheeks felt hot. Maya pictured the younger children waiting on the rug and worried they would be upset.

2. Ben knelt beside her and lifted the box. A tiny orange ear stuck out from a tear in the bottom. “There you are!” he said. He tugged gently, but the puppet was caught. Maya wanted to pull harder. Then she thought about the soft cloth ripping. She held the box still while Ben eased Fox free, one paw at a time.

3. Fox had a long rip along his side. Maya's stomach sank. “Could we make him a bandage?” she asked. Ben found a strip of paper and a piece of tape. Maya wrapped the strip around Fox and drew a small red heart on it. When she raised the puppet, the younger children smiled. Maya smiled too. “Fox has a new adventure,” she said.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does Maya's whisper to Ben show about how she feels before the show?

2. Which of Ben's actions shows that he is trying to help? How does it help?

3. What thought stops Maya from pulling Fox harder? What does she do instead?

4. How do Maya's words and actions at the end show that her feelings have changed?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences about a child whose kite gets stuck in a bush and then gets free. Include dialogue, a thought, and actions that show how the child's feelings change.

ANSWER KEY

Fox Takes the Stage

GRADE 3 · 3.W.3.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what characters say, and circle two actions that show how they respond to a problem. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Maya's whisper to Ben show about how she feels before the show?	**She is worried because they cannot start without Fox.**
2	Which of Ben's actions shows that he is trying to help? How does it help?	**He lifts the box, which helps him spot Fox's ear. He also eases Fox free.**
3	What thought stops Maya from pulling Fox harder? What does she do instead?	**She thinks the soft cloth might rip. She holds the box still while Ben frees Fox.**
4	How do Maya's words and actions at the end show that her feelings have changed?	**She smiles, raises Fox, and calls the bandage a new adventure. She seems happy or relieved instead of worried.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nico saw his kite caught in a thorny bush and clenched his fists. “I will never get it back,” he said. He thought about asking his sister for help instead of yanking the string. Together they gently lifted the branches, and Nico grinned when the kite came free.

For the marking job, accept actions such as Maya checking under the table, Ben easing Fox free, or Maya wrapping Fox's side. In written answers, look for a connection between a character's words, thoughts, or actions and the character's response.