Race to Float

Trace the problem, important plot events, and the solution.

3.RL.1.B "Identify the central conflict and resolution using events from the plot to summarize the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show Nia's main problem. Circle words that show how the problem is solved, then number 1, 2, and 3 beside important events from the beginning, middle, and end.

The Pond Race

1. On Saturday, Nia carried her paper-and-wood boat to the pond for the library's boat race. She had spent a week building it with her grandfather. At the water's edge, Nia saw that one side of the boat had cracked during the walk. The race would begin in twenty minutes, and the boat tipped whenever she set it down.

2. Nia wanted to race, but she did not want the boat to sink. Her grandfather had gone to park the car, so Nia looked around for help. She found a dry leaf, a roll of tape in her pocket, and a small stick near a bench. She taped the leaf over the crack and used the stick to press the tape flat.

3. When her grandfather returned, he gently placed the boat in the pond. It floated straight instead of tipping. Nia joined the race just as the librarian rang a bell. Her boat did not win, but it crossed the pond without sinking. Nia smiled because she had solved the problem and could race the boat she had made.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What is Nia's central conflict, or main problem?

2. What two actions does Nia take to try to solve the problem?

3. Which event shows that Nia's problem is resolved?

4. Write a two-sentence summary of the plot. Include Nia's main problem and its resolution.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence mini-story of your own. In sentence 1, give a character a central problem, in sentence 2, tell an important action, and in sentence 3, show the resolution.

ANSWER KEY

Race to Float

GRADE 3 · 3.RL.1.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show Nia's main problem. Circle words that show how the problem is solved, then number 1, 2, and 3 beside important events from the beginning, middle, and end. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is Nia's central conflict, or main problem?	**Nia's boat has a crack and tips over, so she may not be able to race it.**
2	What two actions does Nia take to try to solve the problem?	**She tapes a dry leaf over the crack and presses the tape flat with a stick.**
3	Which event shows that Nia's problem is resolved?	**The boat floats straight and crosses the pond without sinking.**
4	Write a two-sentence summary of the plot. Include Nia's main problem and its resolution.	**Nia's boat cracks and tips before the library boat race, so she may not be able to race it. She patches the crack with a leaf and tape, and the boat floats across the pond.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jo found that the class hamster cage door was open, and Peanut was missing. Jo followed tiny seed shells to the art shelf and called softly for Peanut. Peanut came out from behind a paint box, so Jo returned him safely to his cage.

Accept answers that identify the cracked, tipping boat as the central conflict and Nia's leaf-and-tape patch as the resolution. For the open task, accept varied stories with a clear problem, an important plot action, and a solution.