Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading Comprehension: The Bird Feeder Count

Grade 3 | Reading a short story and answering questions about details, problems and how a character changes

Read the story. Then answer the questions on the next page.

The Bird Feeder Count

Every winter, Grandpa Joe kept a bird feeder outside his kitchen window. When Priya came to stay for a week, he handed her a notebook and a pencil. "Let's find out which birds visit the most," he said.

The first morning, Priya sat by the window for twenty minutes. She saw two red cardinals, one blue jay and a whole crowd of small brown sparrows. She tried to count the sparrows, but they kept hopping around, so she lost track at eleven.

That night, Priya thought about the problem. The next day she made a chart with one column for each kind of bird. Instead of counting everything at once, she watched for one minute and made a tally mark for every bird that landed. Then she rested for a minute and started again.

By the end of the week, the chart was full. Sparrows had the most marks by far, and the blue jay came only on cold mornings. Grandpa Joe studied the chart and laughed. "You are a real scientist now," he said. Priya grinned and asked if they could count again in the spring.

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Circle the best answer. Look back at the story to find proof.

1. What did Grandpa Joe give Priya?

a) A pair of binoculars
b) A bag of birdseed
c) A notebook and a pencil
d) A book about birds

2. Why did Priya lose track of the sparrows on the first morning?

a) They kept hopping around
b) They flew away
c) She fell asleep
d) The window was foggy

3. How did Priya change the way she counted?

a) She asked Grandpa Joe to count
b) She took photos of the birds
c) She only counted blue jays
d) She watched for one minute and made a tally mark for each bird

4. Which bird had the most marks on the chart?

a) Cardinals
b) Sparrows
c) Blue jays
d) Robins

5. How does Priya feel about counting birds at the end of the story? How do you know? Write 1-2 sentences.

_____

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Reading Comprehension: The Bird Feeder Count - ANSWER KEY

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Correct answers with supporting evidence from the story.

1. What did Grandpa Joe give Priya?

a) A pair of binoculars
b) A bag of birdseed
c) A notebook and a pencil (Evidence: "he handed her a notebook and a pencil")
d) A book about birds

2. Why did Priya lose track of the sparrows on the first morning?

a) They kept hopping around (Evidence: "they kept hopping around")
b) They flew away
c) She fell asleep
d) The window was foggy

3. How did Priya change the way she counted?

a) She asked Grandpa Joe to count
b) She took photos of the birds
c) She only counted blue jays
d) She watched for one minute and made a tally mark for each bird (Evidence: "she watched for one minute and made a tally mark for every bird that landed")

4. Which bird had the most marks on the chart?

a) Cardinals
b) Sparrows (Evidence: "Sparrows had the most marks by far")
c) Blue jays
d) Robins

5. How does Priya feel about counting birds at the end of the story? How do you know? Write 1-2 sentences.

Sample answer: Priya is proud and excited. She grinned and asked to count birds again in the spring.