Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading Comprehension: The Tall Block Tower

Grade 1 | Reading a short story and answering questions about key details and characters

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

The Tall Block Tower

On a rainy afternoon, Nora and her little brother Ben dumped a big box of wooden blocks onto the rug. "Let's build the tallest tower in the world," said Nora.

Nora put the big square blocks on the bottom. Ben stacked the long blocks on top of them. The tower grew taller and taller. Soon it was as tall as the kitchen chair.

Ben reached up to add a tiny red block. The tower wobbled. Then it fell over with a loud crash! Blocks rolled under the couch and across the floor. Ben's lip started to shake.

Nora hugged him. "That is okay," she said. "Now we know a trick. We need a wide bottom." This time they made the bottom two blocks wide. The new tower stood strong. Ben put the tiny red block on the very top, and it did not fall. They clapped and took a picture for Dad.

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

1. What did Nora and Ben use to build?

a) Wooden blocks
b) Paper cups
c) Pillows
d) Books

2. How tall was the first tower before it fell?

a) As tall as Dad
b) As tall as the door
c) As tall as the kitchen chair
d) As tall as the couch

3. What made the tower fall?

a) The dog bumped it
b) Nora kicked it
c) The wind blew it
d) Ben added a tiny red block

4. What trick helped the new tower stand strong?

a) Using only red blocks
b) Making the bottom two blocks wide
c) Building on the couch
d) Using tape

5. How did Ben feel when the tower fell? How do you know? Write 1-2 sentences.

_____

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Reading Comprehension: The Tall Block Tower - ANSWER KEY

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Correct answers with supporting evidence from the story.

1. What did Nora and Ben use to build?

a) Wooden blocks (Evidence: "a big box of wooden blocks")
b) Paper cups
c) Pillows
d) Books

2. How tall was the first tower before it fell?

a) As tall as Dad
b) As tall as the door
c) As tall as the kitchen chair (Evidence: "it was as tall as the kitchen chair")
d) As tall as the couch

3. What made the tower fall?

a) The dog bumped it
b) Nora kicked it
c) The wind blew it
d) Ben added a tiny red block (Evidence: "Ben reached up to add a tiny red block. The tower wobbled.")

4. What trick helped the new tower stand strong?

a) Using only red blocks
b) Making the bottom two blocks wide (Evidence: "they made the bottom two blocks wide")
c) Building on the couch
d) Using tape

5. How did Ben feel when the tower fell? How do you know? Write 1-2 sentences.

Sample answer: Ben felt sad. His lip started to shake, and Nora hugged him.