

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension: The Missing Library Book

Grade 3 | Reading an original short story and answering questions with text evidence

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

The Missing Library Book

On Monday morning, Theo could not find his library book anywhere. It was called *The Secret of Willow Pond*, and it was due that afternoon. Theo checked under his bed, behind the couch, and inside his backpack twice.

"Think about the last place you read it," said his older sister, Ana. Theo closed his eyes. He remembered reading on the porch swing on Saturday, right before it started to rain. He had run inside quickly and left everything behind.

Theo hurried to the porch. The swing was empty. His heart sank. Then he noticed something blue peeking out from under the doormat. It was the book! The rain had made the cover a little wavy, but every page was still there.

At school, Theo walked slowly to the library desk. He felt nervous. "I am sorry," he told Ms. Patel, the librarian. "I left this outside, and it got a little wet." Ms. Patel looked at the cover and smiled. "Thank you for telling me the truth," she said. "It can still be read, and that is what matters most."

Theo let out a long breath. On the way back to class, he made himself a promise: books stay inside, no matter how good the story is.

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

1. What problem does Theo have at the beginning of the story?

- a) He is late for school.
- b) He cannot find his library book.
- c) He lost his backpack.
- d) He forgot his lunch.

2. Where did Theo finally find the book?

- a) Under his bed
- b) In his backpack
- c) Under the doormat
- d) At the library

3. Why was the book cover wavy?

- a) It got rained on.
- b) Theo spilled juice on it.
- c) The dog chewed it.
- d) It was very old.

4. Which word best describes Theo when he talks to Ms. Patel?

- a) Honest
- b) Silly
- c) Angry
- d) Bored

5. What lesson does Theo learn? Use details from the story.
