

Name: _____

Halloween Parade

by Kelly Hashway

Laila stared at the paper on her desk like it was a failed test. Really it was instructions on this year's Halloween parade. In big bold letters it said, "All costumes must be homemade." Laila thought of the beautiful purple princess gown her mom had bought her. She was so excited to wear it in the parade at school. But now, she wasn't going to be able to.



"But, M
costumes?" L

"We de



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is fair," Mr.

Fredrickson said. The plan from the winner to be decided by who spent the most money on their costume."

Laila looked at her friend Jeffrey smiling in his seat. His parents couldn't afford expensive costumes, so he always ended up wearing his brother's old ones. Laila knew this year Jeffrey wouldn't have to worry about wearing an old costume. He'd be making one like everyone else.

"Would anyone like to share what they are going to be?" Mr. Fredrickson asked.

Kids raised their hands, volunteering ideas. Ethan was going to be a robot using cardboard boxes and tinfoil. Aria was going to make a ghost costume out of a white sheet. Jenny's mother was going to sew her a cat costume.

Laila thought about her costume all day. She really wanted to be a princess. But could she make a costume? At home, she asked her mother to help her.

"Sure, sweetie," her mom said. "What if you wore last year's Christmas dress? We can make you a matching cape with the old dining room curtains I have in the attic."

Laila shrugged. She was happy her mom was helping, but she didn't see how her homemade costume could be as nice as the one she'd bought. Mom was excited. She measured Laila and helped her cut the curtain to the right length for a cape. Then she got some cardboard, and Laila made a crown using paint and glitter.

When the outfit was finished, Laila tried it on.

"Well, what do you think?" her mom asked.

Laila stared at her reflection in the mirror. "It's not like my purple costume at all."

"Well, r

Laila re

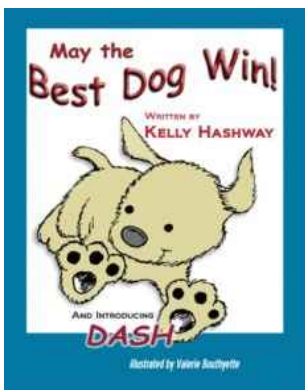
reminded her

bought costume last year, memories. She smiled. "It's better, mom. Thanks for helping me."

Her mom smiled. "You're going to be the hit of the Halloween parade."



About the Author



Kelly Hashway's latest book, *May the Best Dog Win*, is now available!

Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won't give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

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1. What paper did Laila have on her desk at the beginning of the story?
- a. a failed test
 - b. information about the Halloween parade
 - c. a coupon for a costume
 - d. a permission slip to go to the parade

2. Why did Mr. Frederickson say all costumes had to be homemade?

3. How did _____

- a. c
- c. w

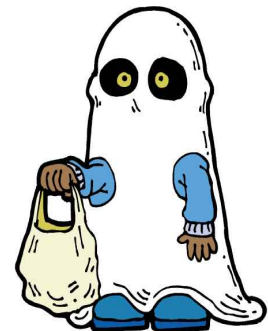
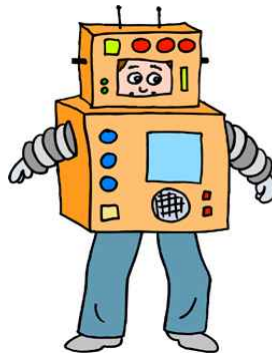


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4. List five _____

5. The pictures below show three of Laila's classmates. Write their names below the pictures.



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Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the story. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. ___ p ___ i v ___

hint: costly

2. ___ r ___ b o ___

hint: stiff paper

3. ___ t a ___ d

hint: long, thin, and curved

4. ___ he

hint: he



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5. ___ i ___

hint: glass surface that reflects a clear image

6. ___ o ___ t ___ m ___

hint: outfit or disguise worn on Halloween

7. ___ e ___ o ___ i ___ s

hint: things that have been remembered

8. ___ t t ___

hint: tiny bits of plastic or metal that shine

9. ___ a ___ a ___

hint: group of people walking together along a street to celebrate a special event

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In the story, "Halloween Parade," Laila's mother helps her make a homemade princess costume for the Halloween parade.



Imagine you were going to make a homemade costume for yourself. What would you make? Describe how you would make it and what it would look like.



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ANSWER KEY

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1. What paper did Laila have on her desk at the beginning of the story? **b**
- a. a failed test
 - b. **information about the Halloween parade**
 - c. a coupon for a costume
 - d. a permission slip to go to the parade

2. Why did Mr. Frederickson say all costumes had to be homemade?

He didn't want the winner to be determined by who spent the most money on their costume.

3. How did Jeffrey feel when he found out that all costumes had to be homemade? **d**

- a. c
- c. v



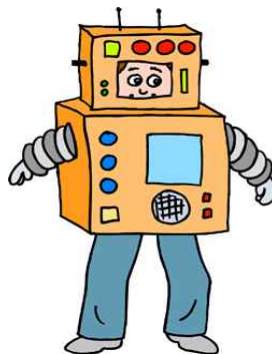
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her Chri

5. The pictures below show three of Laila's classmates. Write their names below the pictures.



Jenny



Ethan



Aria

ANSWER KEY



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Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the story. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. expensive

hint: costly

expensive

2. cardboard

hint: stiff paper

cardboard

3. stared

hint: lo

stared

4. crow

hint: he



~ PREVIEW ~

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5. mirror

hint: glass surface that reflects a clear image

mirror

6. costume

hint: outfit or disguise worn on Halloween

costume

7. memories

hint: things that have been remembered

memories

8. glitter

hint: tiny bits of plastic or metal that shine

glitter

9. parade

hint: group of people walking together along a street to celebrate a special event

parade