

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, Mr. Fredrickson, why do we have to make the costumes?" Laila asked.

"We decided that since there is a costume contest we needed to keep things fair," Mr. Fredrickson said. "We didn't want 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 mother 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 mother was helping, but she didn’t see how her homemade costume could be as nice as the one she’d bought. Mother 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 mother asked.

Laila stared at her reflection in the mirror. “It’s not like my purple costume at all.”

“Well, no,” her mother said.

Laila remembered the fun she had last Christmas in this very dress. And the cape reminded her of Thanksgiving dinner with her family. This costume had something the store bought costume didn’t, memories. She smiled. “It’s better, Mother. Thanks for helping me.”

Her mother smiled. “You’re going to be the hit of the Halloween parade.”

Name: _____

Halloween Parade



By Kelly Hashway

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 Jeffrey feel when he found out that all costumes had to be homemade?
- a. disappointed b. confused
c. worried d. excited

4. List five things Laila used to make her costume.

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







Name: _____

Halloween Parade

By Kelly Hashway

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 ___
clue: costly

2. ___ r ___ b o ___
clue: stiff paper

3. ___ t a ___ d
clue: looked at for a long time

4. ___ o w ___
clue: headpiece for a king, queen, or princess

5. ___ i ___ o r
clue: glass surface that reflects a clear image

6. ___ o ___ t ___ m ___
clue: outfit or disguise worn on Halloween

7. ___ e ___ o ___ i ___ s
clue: things that have been remembered

8. ___ t t ___
clue: tiny bits of plastic or metal that shine

9. ___ a ___ a ___
clue: group of people walking together along a street to celebrate a special event

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

ANSWER KEY

Halloween Parade

By Kelly Hashway



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?

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?

a. disappointed

b. confused

c. worried

d. excited

4. List five things Laila used to make her costume.

her Christmas dress, curtains from the attic, cardboard, glitter, and paint

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



Aria



Ethan



Jenny

ANSWER KEY

Halloween Parade

By Kelly Hashway

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. e x p e n s i v e

clue: costly

1. expensive

2. c a r d b o a r d

clue: stiff paper

2. cardboard

3. s t a r e d

clue: looked at for a long time

3. stared

4. c r o w n

clue: headpiece for a king, queen, or princess

4. crown

5. m i r r o r

clue: glass surface that reflects a clear image

5. mirror

6. c o s t u m e

clue: outfit or disguise worn on Halloween

6. costume

7. m e m o r i e s

clue: things that have been remembered

7. memories

8. g l i t t e r

clue: tiny bits of plastic or metal that shine

8. glitter

9. p a r a d e

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

9. parade