

Name: _____

Making Fun

By Kelly Hashway

Trevor rolled a bouncing ball back and forth between his hands on the kitchen table. His father was supposed to come home early from work to take him to Game World. But it was almost seven and Trevor's dad called to say he had to work late.



"Hey, little bro." Anthony patted Trevor's shoulder. "Are you going to sit there and sulk all night or would you like to hang out with me?"

Trevor shrugged. "I don't feel like going to Game World anymore."

"Good, because I wasn't going to take you to Game World. I have something else in mind."

Anthony nudged Trevor's shoulder and motioned for him to follow.

Trevor sighed as he got up and walked into Anthony's room where Anthony picked up a box on his desk.

"What's that?" Trevor asked.

"It's a make your own bouncing ball kit."

"No way. You can't make those things yourself." Trevor loved playing with bouncy balls. He had an entire collection. Surely he'd know if it was possible to make them at home.

"Oh really? I guess you don't want to try it then."

"I didn't say that," Trevor said.

Anthony opened the box and removed two cups, which he filled with water from the kitchen sink. "Now, pour the colored stuff in these packets into the molds."

"Aren't you making one, too?" Trevor asked.

"Sure." Anthony leaned close to Trevor and whispered, "Bet my ball bounces higher than

yours." He smiled.

"You're on!"

Trevor used the blue and green powdery mixes for his ball. Anthony chose red and black. They put the molds in the water and waited for the balls to form.

"How does this work?" Trevor asked.

"The water makes the powder turn to rubber." Anthony removed the molds and placed them on the table for ten minutes. Trevor couldn't wait to see if it worked.

"Okay, it's time." Anthony removed the balls from the molds and handed Trevor his blue and green ball.

Trevor stared at the ball. It looked like the ones in his collection. "Think they really bounce?"

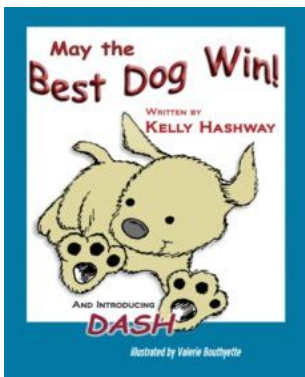
"Only one way to find out." Anthony walked to the hallway with Trevor on his heels. They stood at opposite ends. "Ready?"

"Ready." They each bounced their balls to the other. "Whoa! They work!" Trevor bounced Anthony's ball back to him. "This is awesome."

"See, making your own fun is better than going to Game World."

"You're right. Let's make some more."

About the Author



Kelly Hashway's picture 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.

Hashway, Kelly. *May the Best Dog Win*. ISBN: 9780984589081

Name: _____



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1. Explain how Trevor feels in the first paragraph of the story. Also, tell why he feels this way.

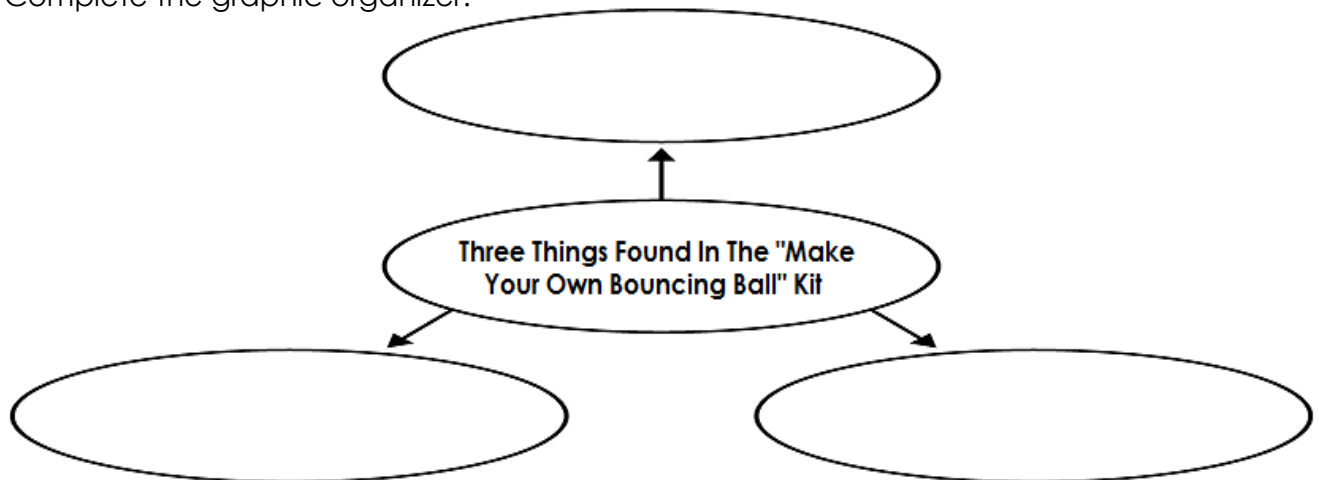
2. Who is Anthony?

- a. Trevor's younger brother
- b. Trevor's older brother
- c. Trevor's next-door neighbor
- d. Trevor's father

3. When does this story take place?

- a. right after school
- b. right before school
- c. in the evening
- d. on a Sunday morning

4. Complete the graphic organizer.



5. List the steps Trevor and Anthony followed to make their bouncing balls.

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. _____ entire | a. pout |
| 2. _____ collection | b. envelopes |
| 3. _____ leaned | c. stretchable, bendable, bouncy substance |
| 4. _____ packets | d. on the other side; in a place across from someone or something |
| 5. _____ molds | e. a group of objects that are saved and have something in common |
| 6. _____ rubber | f. moved closer |
| 7. _____ opposite | g. whole |
| 8. _____ sulk | h. hollow containers into which liquid is poured so it can harden into solid shapes |

❖ **Now try this:** Find each of the words above in the story and highlight them.

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In the story, "Making Fun," Anthony and his brother find a way to amuse themselves on a boring evening by making bouncing balls from a kit.

Write about a time when you were bored and had to find something interesting to do on your own. Describe what you did to amuse yourself.

ANSWER KEY

Making Fun

By Kelly Hashway



1. Explain how Trevor feels in the first paragraph of the story. Also, tell why he feels this way.

He is disappointed because his dad has to work late. His dad was going to take him to Game World, but now he can't.

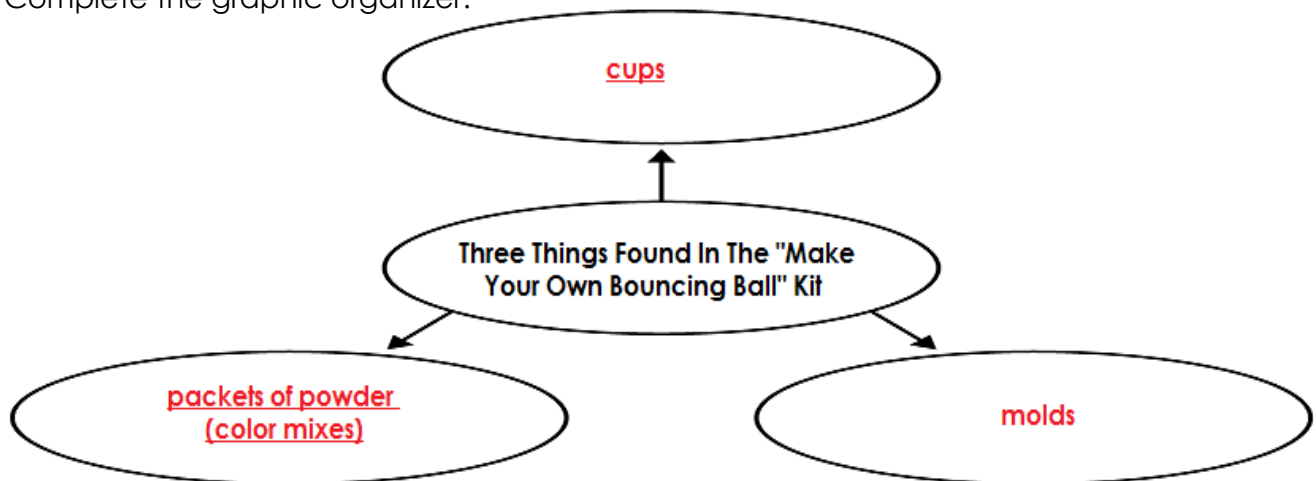
2. Who is Anthony? **b**

- a. Trevor's younger brother
b. **Trevor's older brother**
c. Trevor's next-door neighbor
d. Trevor's father

3. When does this story take place? **c**

- a. right after school
b. right before school
c. **in the evening**
d. on a Sunday morning

4. Complete the graphic organizer.



5. List the steps Trevor and Anthony followed to make their bouncing balls.

Step 1. Fill cups with water.

Step 2. Pour powder into molds.

Step 3. Put the molds in the water.

Step 4. Wait ten minutes for the balls to form.

ANSWER KEY

Making Fun

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|---|
| 1. g | entire | a. pout |
| 2. e | collection | b. envelopes |
| 3. f | leaned | c. stretchable, bendable, bouncy substance |
| 4. b | packets | d. on the other side; in a place across from someone or something |
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