

Name: _____

Broken Perspective

By Kelly Hashway

Darla and Erin sat in the principal's office. They'd been called in for breaking the glass apple on Mrs. Thimble's desk.

"Would either of you like to explain what happened?" Mr. Barlow asked.

Darla and Erin shared a look but neither spoke.

"If I don't know what happened, I'll be forced to punish you both," Mr. Barlow said.

"She did it!" Darla said.

"No, you did," Erin said.

Mr. Barlow held up his hands. "Darla, why don't you explain what happened first? Then, Erin, you'll have a chance to tell the story from your point of view."

Darla took a deep breath. "I was looking at Mrs. Thimble's glass apple. The sun was shining on it, and it made a rainbow on the desk. I thought the rainbow would get bigger if we moved the apple."

"So you moved it?" Mr. Barlow asked.

Darla pointed at Erin. "She did, but the rainbow got smaller. I tried to get the apple back, but it fell on the floor and broke."

Erin started to protest, but Mr. Barlow held his hand up. "Okay. Thank you, Darla. Erin, tell me what happened in your own words."

"Darla said she wanted to make the rainbow bigger, so I told her how my sister used a sun catcher to make a rainbow on my ceiling. I tried to show her, but she complained the rainbow was getting smaller and she could do it better. She tried to take it, and the apple fell on the floor. It was her fault."



"It was not!" Darla yelled.

Mr. Barlow stood up. "Do you want to know what I think?"

They nodded.

"I think Darla wanted to make the rainbow bigger and Erin tried to help."

"Exactly!" Erin said.

"Not so fast," Mr. Barlow said. "Erin, I think you insisted you could make the rainbow go on the ceiling but Darla didn't want to. You two argued, and the apple fell and broke. Does that sound right?"

"So, we're both to blame," Darla said.

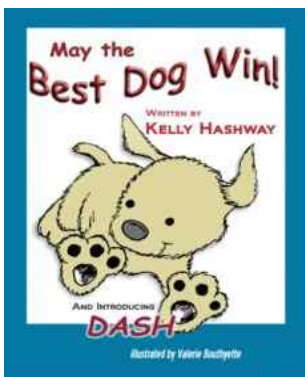
"Yes. The real blame isn't in who broke the apple," Mr. Barlow said. "It was in the fact that you both touched something that didn't belong to you."

"I guess we did," Erin said.

"Do you think Mrs. Thimble will forgive us?" Darla asked.

"I think you both learned a valuable lesson," Mrs. Thimble said, standing in the doorway. "And since you now know something about point of view and how different people can view things in different ways, you can help me with today's lesson on perspective."

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.

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1. Why were Darla and Erin in the principal's office?

2. The apple on Mrs. Thimble's desk was.... (circle one word)

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| colorful | <i>delicate</i> | <i>delicious</i> | <i>flexible</i> |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|

Write a definition for the word you chose above.

3. What caused the rainbow to appear on the classroom ceiling?

- a. water vapor in the air
- b. sunlight passing through glass
- c. movement of sunlight
- d. magic

4. What happened right after Erin explained her side of the story?

- a. Darla explained her side of the story.
- b. Darla apologized to Erin.
- c. Mrs. Thimble said she forgave Darla and Erin.
- d. Darla shouted that it was not her fault.

5. Mr. Barlow was...

- a. angry and loud
- b. calm and reasonable
- c. quiet and shy
- d. kind and generous

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



- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. _____ principal | a. argue; disagree |
| 2. _____ punish | b. would not accept <i>no</i> for an answer |
| 3. _____ rainbow | c. an object made of colored glass that is hung in a window |
| 4. _____ insisted | d. white light that is refracted to make a multi-color pattern |
| 5. _____ point of view | e. assign consequences for poor behavior |
| 6. _____ sun catcher | f. upper surface in a room |
| 7. _____ protest | g. man or woman who is in charge of running a school |
| 8. _____ ceiling | h. a person's perspective on a story |

❖ **Now try this:** Write a sentence using each of the vocabulary words above.

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In the story, Broken Perspective, Erin and Darla are in the principal's office because they broke a glass apple that was on their teacher's desk. They both have a different point of view and they blame each other.



Imagine you are their teacher, Mrs. Thimble. Retell the story from *her* point of view.

ANSWER KEY

Broken Perspective

By Kelly Hashway



1. Why were Darla and Erin in the principal's office?

They broke a glass apple that was on their teacher's desk.

2. The apple on Mrs. Thimble's desk was.... (circle one word)

colorful

delicate

delicious

flexible

Write a definition for the word you chose above.

breakable; easily broken; fragile

3. What caused the rainbow to appear on the classroom ceiling? **b**

- a. water vapor in the air
- b. sunlight passing through glass**
- c. movement of sunlight
- d. magic

4. What happened right after Erin explained her side of the story? **d**

- a. Darla explained her side of the story.
- b. Darla apologized to Erin.
- c. Mrs. Thimble said she forgave Darla and Erin.
- d. Darla shouted that it was not her fault.**

5. Mr. Barlow was... **b**

- a. angry and loud
- b. calm and reasonable**
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ANSWER KEY

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



1. **g** principal
 2. **e** punish
 3. **d** rainbow
 4. **b** insisted
 5. **h** point of view
 6. **c** sun catcher
 7. **a** protest
 8. **f** ceiling
- a. argue; disagree
 - b. would not accept *no* for an answer
 - c. an object made of colored glass that is hung in a window
 - d. white light that is refracted to make a multi-color pattern
 - e. assign consequences for poor behavior
 - f. upper surface in a room
 - g. man or woman who is in charge of running a school
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