

Name: _____

Father's Day Fun Fort

by Kelly Hashway

Andy woke up and looked at his alarm clock. 11:30? He scrambled out of bed and threw on clean clothes. He'd wanted to get up early and surprise his dad with Father's Day breakfast in bed—with his mom's help of course. He grabbed the wrapped present off his desk and went to find his dad.

The entire house was empty. Andy even checked the bathrooms and the attic. Where was his dad? Finally, Andy walked out onto the deck, and his jaw dropped. Dad was holding a hammer and admiring a tree fort that now stood in the yard.



"Dad?" Andy walked down the steps and over to his dad.

"Oh good, you're up. I thought you were going to sleep the day away," Dad said.

"What is this?" Andy asked, motioning to the tree fort.

"Happy Father's Day." Dad smiled and put down the hammer. "Come check it out."

Andy followed his dad into the tree fort. It was amazing. There were three rooms with windows, a rope ladder, and a spy scope.

Dad couldn't stop smiling. "I spent all morning building it. I was going to wait for you, but I was too excited."

"But, Dad, I'm supposed to get you a present for Father's Day, not the other way around."

"This is a present for both of us. I had one when I was your age. Grandpa surprised me with it on Father's Day, too."

"So, it's like a tradition?" Andy asked.

"Yeah, I guess it is. Maybe you'll build one for your son one day." Dad looked around. "So, what do you want to do in your fort first?"

Andy held up the present in his hand. "Here."

Andy didn't think it was possible, but Dad's smile widened as he opened the gift. "A chess set! How did you know I wanted one?"

"I've seen you playing on your computer. I thought you could teach me and we could play together. It's got to be better than playing against the computer, right?"

Dad nodded. "Yes, spending time with you definitely beats competing against a computer." Dad set up the chessboard. "You know, I got the best gift of all this Father's Day."

"I'm glad you like the chess set," Andy said.

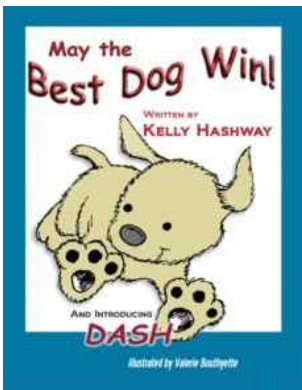
"I do, but I was talking about spending more time with you. I always loved the father-son time I spent with your grandfather when I was growing up."

Andy looked at his dad. "Can we call Grandpa later and invite him to the fort for a game of chess?"

Dad squeezed Andy's shoulder. "I think he'd love that, and so would I."

"Me too," Andy said. "Happy Father's Day."

About the Author



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

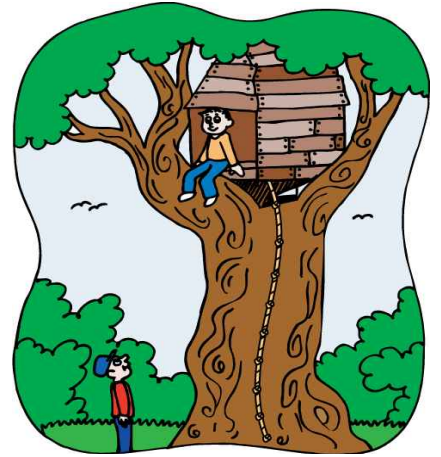
Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won't give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

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1. When does this story take place?
 - a. on a May afternoon
 - b. early in the morning sometime in May
 - c. on a June morning
 - d. around the 4th of July

Explain why you chose the answer above.

2. What gift did Andy give his father? _____

3. About how long might it have taken Andy's father to build the tree fort?
 - a. about an hour
 - b. about 5 hours
 - c. about 18 hours
 - d. about a week

4. Why did Andy want to get up early on Father's Day?

5. What is this story mostly about?
 - a. a father and son build a tree fort together
 - b. a boy surprises his father on Father's Day
 - c. a boy, his father, and his grandfather play chess together
 - d. a father surprises his son on Father's Day

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Match each vocabulary word from the story to the correct definition.

_____ 1. alarm

_____ 2. wrapped

_____ 3. admiring

_____ 4. hammer

_____ 5. chess

_____ 6. competing

_____ 7. invite

_____ 8. present

a. enjoying; appreciating

b. tool for pounding nails into wood

c. gift

d. loud sound or buzzer that goes off at a chosen time

e. playing against

f. ask someone to come over to visit

g. covered in paper

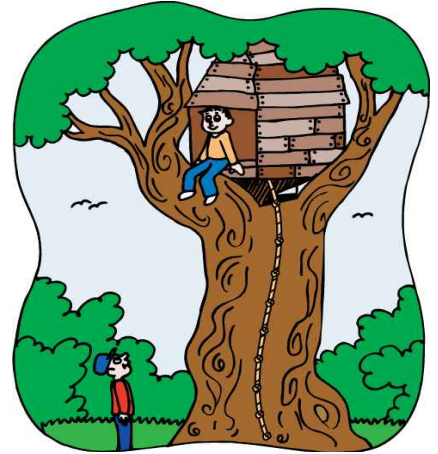
h. board game with kings, queens, knights, bishops, rooks, & pawns

◆ **Now try this:** Write three sentences on your own. In each sentence, use one of the vocabulary words above.

ANSWER KEY

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1. When does this story take place? **c**
 - a. on a May afternoon
 - b. early in the morning sometime in May
 - c. **on a June morning**
 - d. around the 4th of July

Explain why you chose the answer above.

Andy's alarm clock said 11:30 when he woke up, so it is late morning. Father's Day is in June.

2. What gift did Andy give his father? **a chess set**
3. About how long might it have taken Andy's father to build the tree fort? **b**
 - a. about an hour
 - b. **about 5 hours**
 - c. about 18 hours
 - d. about a week
4. Why did Andy want to get up early on Father's Day?
He wanted to make breakfast-in-bed for his father.
5. What is this story mostly about? **d**
 - a. a father and son build a tree fort together
 - b. a boy surprises his father on Father's Day
 - c. a boy, his father, and his grandfather play chess together
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Match each vocabulary word from the story to the correct definition.

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| d 1. alarm | a. enjoying; appreciating |
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| h 5. chess | e. playing against |
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