

Name: _____

Easter Parade

By Kelly Hashway



Erica's class had been working on their float for the Easter parade for over a month. Parents volunteered to help build it, but Erica and her classmates had designed the entire thing. Bunnies and colorful eggs decorated the float. But Erica's favorite part was the egg throne in the middle.

"You all did a beautiful job," Mrs. Jackson said, as the class stepped back to admire the float. "There's just one thing missing."

Erica studied the float, trying to figure out what they had forgotten.

"We need a volunteer for a very special job in the parade," Mrs. Jackson said.

Erica looked at the empty throne. Of course! Someone had to sit on the throne. Erica's hand shot up in the air. "I'll do it, Mrs. Jackson!"

"Great! Thank you, Erica," Mrs. Jackson said. "Meet me here tomorrow morning at eight. That should be enough time to explain your role in the parade."

That night Erica dreamed about sitting on the throne and waving to everyone in the crowd.

At eight the next morning, she arrived at the school parking lot where Mrs. Jackson was waiting. Mrs. Jackson was holding something big and pink in her arms. Erica imagined a beautiful pink gown fit for an Easter princess.



“You’re right on time,” Mrs. Jackson said. “I need you to put on your costume and then take your place on the float.” She handed a bunny suit to Erica.

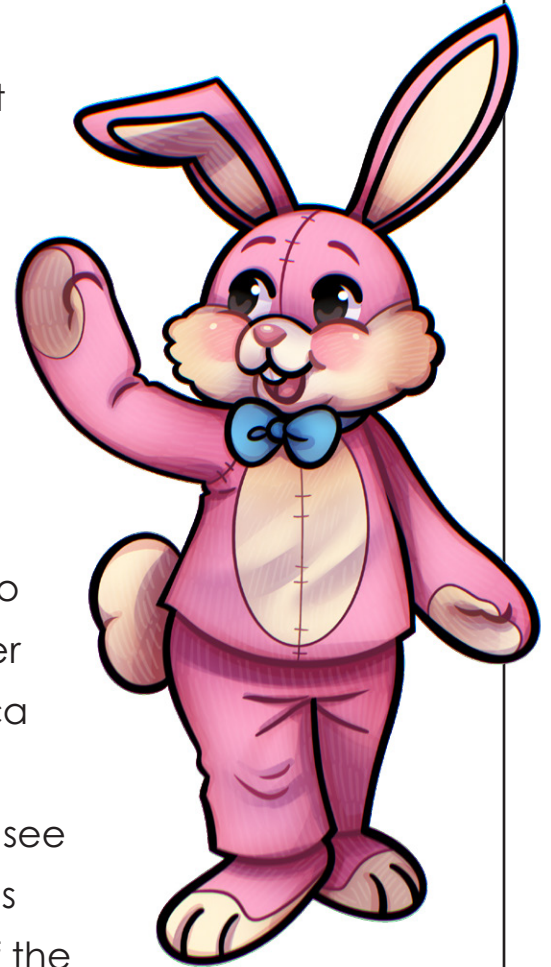
Erica took the suit and cringed. She was about to tell Mrs. Jackson that she didn’t want to dress up as a big bunny, but a little girl walked up, dragging her mother by the hand.

“Mommy, when’s the Easter Bunny going to be here?”

“Soon, sweetie. Soon.”

Erica stared at the little girl. She looked so excited to see the Easter Bunny. Erica headed into the school and put on her bunny suit. She took her place on the float. When the parade began, Erica heard the noise of the crowd. Erica’s class float was the last one in the parade. She could barely see through the eye holes in the bunny suit, and it was really stuffy under all that fur. But Erica thought of the little girl. As her classmates walked the float down the road, Erica waved and searched the crowd for the little girl. Finally, she found her. The girl clapped and cheered.

Erica wasn’t an Easter princess, but she was the star of the parade after all.



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1. Mrs. Jackson said "We need a volunteer for a very special job in the parade." At first, what did Erica think the job was?

2. What was Erica's actual job in the Easter parade?

3. What did Erica do when she realized the job she volunteered for is not the job she thought she'd have?

- a. She told Mrs. Jackson she didn't want to do the special job.
- b. She complained to Mrs. Jackson.
- c. She cooperated and did the job she volunteered for.
- d. She pretended she didn't know what she was supposed to do.

4. What lesson can be learned from this story?

- a. Participating in school activities is hard work.
- b. When people are counting on you, you shouldn't disappoint them.
- c. You should never give up.
- d. Dreams really can come true.

5. Read the following sentence from the story.

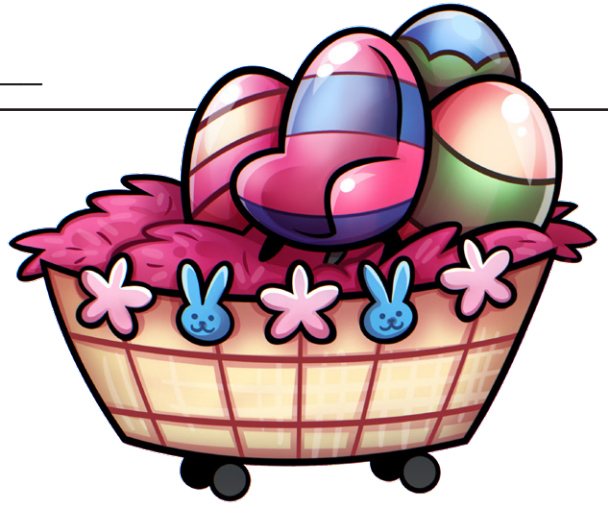
Erica's favorite part was the egg throne in the middle.

Write a definition for the underlined word. Use a dictionary if you're not sure.

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

1. ____ o a ____

clue: decorated platform in a parade

1. _____

2. ____ o ____ d

clue: large group of people

2. _____

3. ____ a p ____ e d

clue: struck the palms of the hands together to make a sound

3. _____

4. ____ l ____ r ____ u ____

clue: full of color

4. _____

5. ____ n ____

clue: synonym for rabbit

5. _____

6. ____ r ____ n ____ e d

clue: tensed up because of embarrassment

6. _____

7. ____ o ____ n

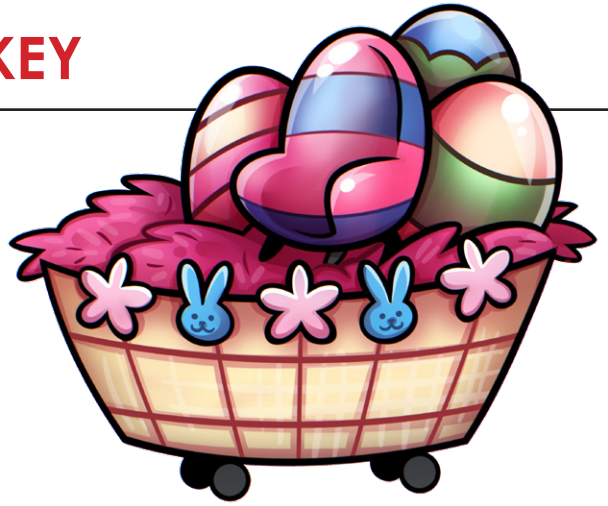
clue: fancy dress

7. _____

ANSWER KEY

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1. Mrs. Jackson said "We need a volunteer for a very special job in the parade." At first, what did Erica think the job was?

Erica thought Mrs. Jackson was looking for an Easter princess who would sit on the throne and wave to the crowd.

2. What was Erica's actual job in the Easter parade?

Erica's job was to dress up as the Easter Bunny and wave to the crowd.

3. What did Erica do when she realized the job she volunteered for is not the job she thought she'd have?

- a. She told Mrs. Jackson she didn't want to do the special job.
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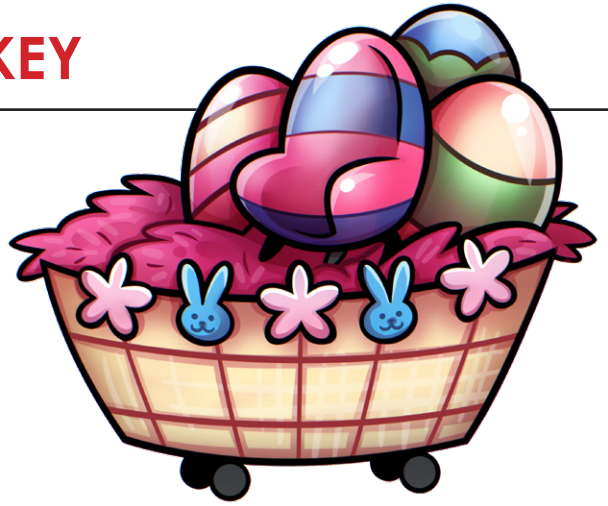
Write a definition for the underlined word. Use a dictionary if you're not sure.

A throne is a large chair.

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

1. f l o a t

clue: decorated platform in a parade

1. float

2. c r o w d

clue: large group of people

2. crowd

3. c l a p p e d

clue: struck the palms of the hands together to make a sound

3. clapped

4. c o l o r f u l

clue: full of color

4. colorful

5. b u n n y

clue: synonym for rabbit

5. bunny

6. c r i n g e d

clue: tensed up because of embarrassment

6. cringed

7. g o w n

clue: fancy dress

7. gown