James had the hiccups.

“Stand on your head,” said Bella. “Then the hiccups will fall out.”

“Thanks for your help,” James said. “But I think I’ll try something else first.” James covered his ears. Then he held his breath and swallowed.

“It worked!” James cried. “My hiccups are gone.”

Bella stared. “I wonder where they went.”

“I don’t know and I don’t care,” James said. “I’m just glad they’re gone.”

“Yes, but—Hiccup, hiccup! Oh no! Now I know where they went. You...hiccup, hiccup...gave them to me!”

James smiled. “Try standing on your head, Bella.”
Hiccup Help
By Guy Belleranti

1. In the story, what problem is James having?
   a. James is fighting with Bella.
   b. James has the hiccups.
   c. James can't stand on his head.
   d. James thinks Bella is being bossy.

2. What is the first thing James does to try to get rid of his hiccups?

3. What does Bella want James to do?

4. What happens to James' hiccups at the end of the story?
   a. He can't get rid of them.
   b. He gets rid of them by standing on his head.
   c. He gives them to Bella.
   d. He gets rid of them by drinking water.
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<tr>
<td>1. hiccups</td>
<td>a. to be curious</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. swallowed</td>
<td>b. air that you take in and out of your lungs</td>
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<td>5. breath</td>
<td>e. tiny coughs that can be hard to stop</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. covered</td>
<td>f. to be happy</td>
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</table>
In the story, “Hiccup Help,” Bella tells James how he should get rid of his hiccups, but James wants to try it his own way.

Tell about a time you wanted to do something your own way. How did it go? Did it work out how you thought it would, or did you wish you had listened to someone else's advice?
ANSWER KEY

Hiccup Help
By Guy Belleranti

1. In the story, what problem is James having?  b
   a. James is fighting with Bella.
   b. James has the hiccups.

2. What is the first thing James does to try to get rid of his hiccups? Does it work?
   James tries to cover his ears, hold his breath, and swallow. It does not work.

3. What does Bella want James to do?
   Bella wants James to stand on his head.

4. What happens to James' hiccups at the end of the story?
   c. He gets rid of them by standing on his head.
ANSWER KEY

Hiccup Help
By Guy Belleranti

Draw lines to match the words from the story with their meanings.

1. hiccups
   a. to be curious

Preview
Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.