Ian Makes Dad a Birthday Cake

by Anita N. Amin

It was Dad’s birthday. Ian wanted to make Dad a cake.

“Dad likes carrot cake,” Ian told Mom.
“‘I’ll make carrot cake for him.”

Mom helped. She cut some carrots. Ian mixed flour, sugar, and spices in a bowl.

Ian’s hands were wet from the egg. He went and washed his hands. When he came back, Sir Wags-a-Lot had a paw in the cake mix.

“No Sir Wags-a-Lot,” Ian said. He moved his dog away. “Now, where is my spoon?” He saw a bit of silver in the cake mix. He fished the spoon out of the cake mix.

Ian added Mom’s carrots to the bowl. He stirred and poured the cake mix into a pan. Mom put it in the oven.

Soon, the cake was ready for Dad!

Sir Wags-a-Lot put a paw in the cake. “No Sir Wags-a-Lot,” Ian said. He moved his dog away. “We have to give it to Dad first.”

Dad blew out his candles. He ate his cake. “This is the best cake ever because you made it yourselves!” Dad said. If Dad did eat any egg shells or hair, his smile didn’t show it.
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1. In the story, why does Ian move Sir-Wags-a-Lot away from the cake mix?
   a. Sir-Wags-a-Lot might get dog hair in the cake mix.
   b. Sir-Wags-a-Lot is trying to steal a carrot.
   c. Sir-Wags-a-Lot is eating the food.
   d. Sir-Wags-a-Lot is barking too much.

2. How many times does Ian move Sir-Wags-a-Lot away from the cake mix?
   Ian moves Sir-Wags-a-Lot away _________________________ times.

3. The box below shows food items that Ian added to Dad's birthday cake.
   Circle the two items Ian did not use to make Dad's cake.
   - carrots
   - spices
   - vanilla
   - eggs
   - milk
   - sugar
   - flour
   - oil

4. Which of the following events in the story happens first?
   a. Mom puts the pan in the oven.
   b. Dad says, "This is the best cake ever!"
   c. Ian washes his hands.
   d. Ian mixes flour, sugar, and spices in a bowl.

5. Who cuts the carrots for Dad's birthday cake?
   _________________________ cuts the carrots for Dad's birthday cake.

6. Would you want to eat the birthday cake Ian made? Why or why not?
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
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Draw lines to match the words from the story with their meanings.

1. carrot  ●  ● smelled

2. flour  ●  ● sticks that are burned to give light

5. candles  ●  ● a shiny gray color

6. fished  ●  ● a powder used to make a cake
In the story, “Ian Makes Dad a Birthday Cake,” Ian makes a special cake for Dad's birthday.

On the lines below, write about a special gift you gave someone for their birthday.

__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________

Preview
Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.
1. In the story, why does Ian move Sir-Wags-a-Lot away from the cake mix?  
   a. Sir-Wags-a-Lot might get dog hair in the cake mix.

2. How many times does Ian move Sir-Wags-a-Lot away from the cake mix?  
   Ian moves Sir-Wags-a-Lot away four times.

3. The box below shows food items that Ian added to Dad's birthday cake. Circle the two items Ian did not use to make Dad's cake.  
   carrots  spices  vanilla  eggs  milk  sugar  flour  oil

4. Which of the following events in the story happens first?  
   a. Mom puts the pan in the oven.
   b. Dad says, "This is the best cake ever!"
   c. Ian washes his hands.
   d. Ian mixes flour, sugar, and spices in a bowl.

5. Who cuts the carrots for Dad's birthday cake?  
   Mom cuts the carrots for Dad's birthday cake.

6. Would you want to eat the birthday cake Ian made? Why or why not?  
   Answers will vary.
Draw lines to match the words from the story with their meanings.

1. carrot

2. flour

3. sniffed

4. silver

5. candles

6. fished