The Closet Creature
by Kelly Hashway

Bump! Bump! Scratch!

Adam opened his eyes and pulled the covers up to his chin. He stared around his room, searching the darkness for the thing that was making those scary sounds.

The closet door moved as something banged on it from the inside.

“Who’s there?” Adam asked in a shaky voice.

The closet slowly began to open. Adam jumped out of bed and ran to the closet door, slamming it shut with his palms. He grabbed his desk chair and propped it against the door handle. Then he ran out of his room and down the hall. His brother’s door was wide open, and Adam jumped onto David’s bed.

“Adam?” David asked in a groggy voice. “What are you doing in here?”

Adam tugged on David’s arm. “There’s something in my closet!”

“You probably had a bad dream. Go back to bed.”

Adam yanked the blankets off the bed. “It wasn’t a dream. I was awake, and the closet door started opening by itself!”

David sighed. “Fine. But when we don’t find anything, you have to promise to leave me alone for the rest of the night.”
Adam nodded. David reached into his desk drawer and pulled out a flashlight. Then they headed to Adam’s room. Adam stopped in the doorway. He could hear something scratching his closet door.

“Do you hear that?” Adam asked.

David nodded. He walked over to Adam’s bed and pulled the case off one of the pillows. He opened the pillowcase.

“You open the door very slowly, and I’ll grab whatever it is.”

Adam slid the chair to the side and pulled the closet door open a crack. Something banged against the door, trying to force it open. Adam took a deep breath and opened the door a few more inches. A small furry creature ran right into the pillowcase.

“I got it!” David said, closing the pillowcase and holding it in the air.

“What is it?” Adam moved closer as David peeked inside.

David put the pillowcase on the bed and an orange cat climbed out.

Adam scooped the cat up. “Apricot? How did you get trapped in my closet?”

David laughed. “The poor cat. If I was locked in your closet with your stinky shoes, I’d be banging on the door to get out, too!”

“Poor, Apricot,” Adam said. “You were probably more scared than I was.”

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**About the Author**

**Kelly Hashway**

Kelly Hashway is a children’s book author. You may enjoy reading her latest book, *May the Best Dog Win*, which will be available in Spring 2011.
The Closet Creature
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1. What happened right after David went into Adam's room?
   a. Adam jumped into David's bed.
   b. David grabbed a flashlight from his desk drawer.
   c. Adam awoke to strange sounds coming from his bedroom closet.
   d. David heard the noise coming from Adam's closet.

2. What did David plan to do with the pillowcase?
   a. keep the creature from coming out of the closet
   b. scare the creature in the closet
   c. catch the creature in the closet
   d. hit the creature in the closet

3. What was making the strange sounds in Adam's closet?

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

4. Write three adjectives that describe David. Tell why you chose each word.

   ___________________ because ____________________________

   ___________________ because ____________________________

   ___________________ because ____________________________

5. What type of story is this?
   a. tall tale        b. non-fiction
   c. mystery         d. fable

Super Teacher Worksheets - www.superteacherworksheets.com
The Closet Creature
by Kelly Hashway

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 ___ y
   clue: sleepy

2. ___ l ___
   clue: past tense of slide

3. ___ m s
   clue: inner surfaces of the hands

4. ___ i ___ ___ a ___
   clue: soft bag for keeping a pillow clean

5. ___ e ___ e d
   clue: went towards

6. ___ i ___ o ___
   clue: orange fruit

7. ___ e ___ e d
   clue: took a quick look
The Closet Creature
Parts of a Story

Characters: List the main characters and briefly describe them.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Setting: Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Problem: Describe the main character's problem.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Solution: Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Personal Opinion: Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Super Teacher Worksheets - www.superteacherworksheets.com
Retell “The Closet Creature” from the cat’s point-of-view. Then, on a separate sheet of white paper, draw a picture to accompany your story.
The Closet Creature
by Kelly Hashway

1. What happened right after David went into Adam's room?
   d. David heard the noise coming from Adam's closet.
   a. Adam jumped into David's bed.
   b. David grabbed a flashlight from his desk drawer.
   c. Adam awoke to strange sounds coming from his bedroom closet.

2. What did David plan to do with the pillowcase?
   c. catch the creature in the closet
   a. keep the creature from coming out of the closet
   b. scare the creature in the closet
   d. hit the creature in the closet

3. What was making the strange sounds in Adam's closet?
   The boys' cat, Apricot, was trapped in the closet.

4. Write three adjectives that describe David. Tell why you chose each word.
   Answers will vary. Sample answers given.
   brave because he was willing to catch the creature in the closet
   annoyed because he didn't like his brother waking him up in the middle of the night
   tired because he spoke in a groggy voice and told his brother to go back to bed

5. What type of story is this?
   c. mystery
   a. tall tale
   b. non-fiction
   d. fable
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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. g r o g g y
   clue: sleepy
   1. groggy

2. s l i d
   clue: past tense of slide
   2. slid

3. p a l m s
   clue: inner surfaces of the hands
   3. palms

4. p i l l o w c a s e
   clue: soft bag for keeping a pillow clean
   4. pillowcase

5. h e a d e d
   clue: went towards
   5. headed

6. a p r i c o t
   clue: orange fruit
   6. apricot

7. p e e k e d
   clue: took a quick look
   7. peeked
**The Closet Creature**

**Parts of a Story**

**Characters:** List the main characters and briefly describe them.

- **Adam** - brother of David; scared of sounds in the night
- **David** - brother of Adam; sleepy in this story; Brave

**Setting:** Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

- The story takes place at night, in David and Adam’s bedrooms.

**Problem:** Describe the main character’s problem.

- Adam hears sounds coming from his closet. He sees the closet door opening and is afraid.

**Solution:** Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

- David came into the room with a flashlight, he took Adam’s pillowcase and used it to catch the creature. It turned out to be the family cat.

**Personal Opinion:** Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

- Answers will vary.