“How much longer until we get there?” Jared asked for the fourth time in the last ten minutes. He couldn’t believe how much traffic there was on the way to the beach.

“Jared, you really need to be more patient. We can’t control the traffic,” Mom said.

“Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave.” Dad wiped his brow and cranked up the air conditioning in the car.

Jared sighed. He could see the water, but it still seemed so far away. As the car inched closer, Jared tapped his foot.

“Jared, please,” Dad said. “That tapping is driving me crazy.”

“There’s a parking space right there,” Mom said, pointing up ahead.

“Too many people,” Dad said. “Keep walking.”

Jared stared at the people splashing in the cool water. He was dying to go in the ocean. “Here?” He pointed to a spot close to the water.
“Our towels will get wet when the tide comes in,” Mom said. “Keep going.”

Just when Jared didn’t think he could take the heat any longer, they found a spot. Jared threw down his stuff and started for the water.

“Hang on,” Mom said. “You need sun block.”

Jared stomped back and grabbed the sunblock, applying it as fast as he could. “Now, can I go?” he asked.

“I want to get a picture,” Mom said.

Dad held up his hand. “Let the boy swim first. He’s hot.”

Jared mouthed a “thank you” to his dad before running into the water. As soon as the waves touched him, Jared felt better.

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About the Author

Kelly Hashway’s picture book, Melinda’s Museum Magic, is now available!

Melinda is taking her first trip to the museum, and her mother promises it will be magical. But when the exhibits start coming to life in ways that only Melinda can see, she’ll learn the real magic of the museum.


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Name: ______________________________

Just Be Patient
By Kelly Hashway

1. When Jared was in the car, he was feeling...
   a. patient    b. impatient
   c. nervous    d. relaxed

2. Tell what order these events happened in the story.
   Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th on each line.
   __________ Jared's father parked the truck.
   __________ Jared's family searched for a spot on the beach.
   __________
   __________

3. Why did Jared say thank you to his dad before swimming in the water?
   a. His dad wanted to leave the beach.
   b. His dad helped carry chairs to the beach.
   c. His dad went in the water with him.
   d. His dad told his mom to take pictures later.

4. Think about the following sentence from the story and answer the question.
   Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave.
   What does this sentence mean?
   __________________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________
Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

1. _____ patient  a. hurry

2. _____ traffic  b. chemical to protect skin from sunburn

3. _____ heat wave  c. able to wait calmly

4. _____  

5. _____  

6. _____  

7. _____ sun block  g. many days of hot weather

8. _____ rush  h. strap in a car worn by passengers for protection

◊ Now try this: Find all of the words above in the story and highlight them.
In the story, "Just Be Patient," Jared was impatient to get to the beach.

Write about a time when you felt impatient. Explain what you were excited for and tell how long you had to wait.

_________________________________________________________________________
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_________________________________________________________________________
1. When Jared was in the car, he was feeling... **b**
   a. patient        b. **impatient**
   c. nervous        d. relaxed

2. Tell what order these events happened in the story. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th on each line.
   1st Jared's mother told him to be patient.
   2nd Jared's father parked the truck.
   3rd Jared's family searched for a spot on the beach.
   4th Jared put sunblock on.
   5th Jared swam in the ocean.

3. Why did Jared say thank you to his dad before swimming in the water?
   d. His dad told his mom to take pictures later.

4. Think about the following sentence from the story and answer the question.
   Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave.
   What does this sentence mean?
   People all want to come to the beach when the weather is hot.
Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

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a. hurry
b. cars moving on a road
c. able to wait calmly
d. rising and falling of water in the ocean
e. equipment
f. chemical to protect skin from sunburn
g. many days of hot weather
h. strap in a car worn by passengers for protection

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