

Name: _____

Mother's Day Gift

by Kelly Hashway

Brendan fastened his bike helmet and opened the garage door. He wanted to go for a ride to clear his head. He still had no idea what to get Mom for Mother's Day. But instead of seeing his bike, he saw his older sister, Jen.

"Hey, little bro," Jen said, waving her paintbrush in the air.

"What are you doing? And where's my bike?" Brendan scanned the garage. His bike was nowhere to be seen.

"I moved it. I was afraid I'd splatter paint on it." Jen sat back on her stool and admired the painting. "Come see. Tell me what you think."

Brendan walked over and saw it was a painting of Jen and Mom. "Wow! That's really good, Jen."

"Thanks. I've been working on it for weeks. I started it in art class, but I didn't finish in time, so I had to bring it home. I'm hiding in here, hoping Mom won't see it. I want to surprise her with it for Mother's Day."

Mother's Day. The words swam around in Brendan's head. What was he going to get Mom?

"What's wrong?" Jen asked.

"I don't have a gift for Mom."

Jen shrugged. "You still have a few days."

"But I don't know what to get her. I can't paint like you can, and I don't have enough allowance saved to buy her anything nice."

Jen put down her paintbrush. "A gift doesn't have to be something you make or anything you buy from a store. What Mom really wants is to know you love and appreciate her."



Jen smiled and walked Brendan out of the garage to where his bike was stored by the shed. "I know you'll think of something."

Brendan sat on his bike and thought. A gift not from a store or something made? What was Jen talking about?

Mom's car pulled into the driveway as Jen shut the garage door and concealed the painting. Mom got out and smiled at Brendan. "Going for a ride?"

"Yeah."

"Have fun. I used to love riding my bike." Brendan stared after Mom as she went in the front door.

Brendan's face lit up. Mom had a bike hanging in the garage. She hadn't ridden it in years. Brendan opened the garage door and got the bike down from the hooks. Mom's bike was dusty and dirty. The tires were flat, the chain wasn't attached, and it needed grease.

Brendan knew what he could do for Mother's Day. He spent the next day cleaning and polishing the bike. He used his tire pump to put air in the tires. He even fixed and greased the chain. On Mother's Day, he brought Mom out to the garage.

Her eyes lit up at the sight of her bike. It looked almost new. "You did this?"

"I thought we could go riding together."

Mom smiled. "Brendan, there's nothing I'd rather do to celebrate Mother's Day."

About the Author



Kelly Hashway's newest picture book, *Santa Bunny*, is now available!

When the Easter Bunny feels children love Santa more than him, he decides to take over the Christmas holiday. The Easter Bunny shows up on Christmas Eve to deliver baskets to all the good children, only Santa is delivering gifts, too. But little Tommy catches them and wants to know who will hide eggs on Easter? Can Tommy convince the Easter Bunny he's loved before it's too late?

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1. What did Jen plan to give her mother for Mother's Day?

2. Why did Jen move Brendan's bike?

- a. She didn't want him to ride it.
- b. She wanted to fix it up for Mother's Day.
- c. She wanted to paint it a different color.
- d. She was afraid she'd spill paint on it.

3. What did Brendan and his mother do on Mother's Day?

- a. They painted pictures.
- b. They fix up Brendan's mother's bike.
- c. They went for a bike ride.
- d. They made breakfast together.

4. What is the setting of this story?

- a. in the garage in mid-June
- b. in the garage in mid-May
- c. in the living room in early May
- d. outside in late May

5. Read the following sentence from the story and write a definition for the underlined word. Use a dictionary if you don't know.

Mom's car pulled into the driveway as Jen shut the garage door and concealed the painting.

The underline word means...

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The incomplete words below are from the story. Add vowels to the blank spaces and re-write each word on the line. Check back in the story to make sure each word is spelled correctly.

1. f ____ s t ____ n ____ d _____

hint: attached; secured; clipped on

2. p ____ ____ n t b r ____ s h _____

hint: tool for painting

3. ____ l l ____ w ____ n c ____ _____

hint: money given to a person, often in return for work

4. c ____ n c ____ ____ l ____ d _____

hint: hid; covered or moved

5. p ____ l ____ s h ____ d _____

hint: made something smooth and shiny

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In the story, "Mother's Day Gift," Brendan doesn't have much money saved, so he has to be creative to figure out what to get his mom for Mother's Day.



Think of something that does not cost money that you could give as a Mother's Day gift. Describe this gift and how you would make it.

ANSWER KEY

Mother's Day Gift

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1. What did Jen plan to give her mother for Mother's Day?

Jen painted a picture of herself and her mother to give as a gift for Mother's Day.

2. Why did Jen move Brendan's bike? **d**
- a. She didn't want him to ride it.
 - b. She wanted to fix it up for Mother's Day.
 - c. She wanted to paint it a different color.
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Mom's car pulled into the driveway as Jen shut the garage door and concealed the painting.

The underline word means...

hid an object; covered or moved an object so it is out of sight

ANSWER KEY

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1. f a s t e n e d

hint: attached; secured; clipped on

fastened

2. p a i n t b r u s h

hint: tool for painting

paintbrush

3. a l l o w a n c e

hint: money given to a person, often in return for work

allowance

4. c o n c e a l e d

hint: hid; covered or moved

concealed

5. p o l i s h e d

hint: made something smooth and shiny

polished