

Name: _____

Nature's Rainbow

By Kelly Hashway



Jayden read the assignment and shook his head. "No way can we find all these colors in nature."

Ms. Snyder smiled. "If you look hard enough, you will." She motioned for Jayden to follow the tour guide down the nature trail.

Jayden looked around. Some of the colors were easy to spot. The grass was green. The dirt was brown. And since it was fall, the leaves were all sorts of oranges, yellows, and reds. But where was he going to find purple and blue?

"How many colors did you find," Allie asked him.

"Five. How about you?"

"Six."

"Did you find blue yet?" Jayden tried to peek at Allie's paper.

"Hey, no copying." Allie walked away.

Jayden sighed as the tour guide talked about the different kinds of trees. He wasn't the least bit interested. He just wanted to finish the assignment.

"How are you doing, Jayden?" Ms. Snyder asked.

"Okay, I guess. But what in nature is blue or purple?" He shrugged. "My pen has blue ink. Does that count? I'm outside using it."

"Sorry, Jayden. Keep looking."





"I am. All I see are two blank spots on my paper because I can't think of the answers."

"You'd find more colors if you spent less time focusing on your paper and more time looking around you." Ms. Snyder walked away, leaving Jayden thinking this was one assignment he wasn't going to get an A on.

The tour guide started talking about fish, and Jayden picked his eyes up from his paper. He heard the tinkling of a small stream flowing next to him. "The water looks blue," he said, not realizing he was talking out loud.

"Yes, it reflects the color of the sky," the tour guide said.

The sky! Why didn't he think of that sooner? The sky and the stream were blue. He wrote both answers on his paper, hoping he'd get extra credit for it since he still couldn't find purple.

They continued their nature walk through a more dense part of the woods. Leaves littered the ground. Jayden saw Allie up ahead and rushed over to her. "I found six colors, but I still can't find purple."

"You aren't looking hard enough."

"Yes, I am."

"Really?" She lowered her eyes to the ground. Reddish leaves surrounded them.

Jayden picked one up. "These are red, not—" He stopped when he saw the back of the leaf. "The back is purple."

"Yup." Allie walked away.

"So, Jayden," Ms. Snyder said, "did you find all the colors?"

"Yeah. But I bet there are even more. I'm going to look." He continued turning over leaves, trying to find even more colors in nature's rainbow.

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1. Where does this story take place?
 - a. in the woods behind Jayden's house
 - b. behind the school
 - c. on a class field trip to a local farm
 - d. on a class field trip to the woods
2. When does this story take place?
 - a. in the spring
 - b. in autumn
 - c. during winter
 - d. during summer

Tell why you chose the answer above.

3. Describe the assignment that Jayden was trying to complete.

4. Explain why Jayden thought he could count his pen as an object in nature.
 - a. because he was outside when he was using it
 - b. because it was green, like the grass
 - c. because it was made from things in nature
 - d. because he thought the teacher wouldn't notice

5. What two blue items did Jayden have on his list?

_____ and _____

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. _____ assignment | a. creek; brook; small river of water |
| 2. _____ peek | b. thick |
| 3. _____ focusing | c. color that has a red tint to it |
| 4. _____ stream | d. hurried |
| 5. _____ reflects | e. paying attention to |
| 6. _____ dense | f. shows an image of something else; mirrors |
| 7. _____ rushed | g. to look quickly without being noticed |
| 8. _____ reddish | h. task given by a teacher |

Now try this: Find each of the words above in the story and highlight them.

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In the story, "Nature's Rainbow," Jayden tried to find things in nature for each color.

Which colors are the easiest to find in nature? Which colors are the hardest to find in nature? Explain your answers.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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Go on a nature walk. Find one or more things in nature for each color listed below.

red

orange

yellow

green

blue

purple

brown

black

white

ANSWER KEY

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 - d. on a class field trip to the woods**
2. When does this story take place?
 - a. in the spring
 - b. in autumn**
 - c. during winter
 - d. during summer

Tell why you chose the answer above.

The third paragraph of the story says it's fall and there are colored leaves all around.

3. Describe the assignment that Jayden was trying to complete.

Jayden was given a list of colors, and he needed to find something in nature that was each color.
4. Explain why Jayden thought he could count his pen as an object in nature.
 - a. because he was outside when he was using it**
 - b. because it was green, like the grass
 - c. because it was made from things in nature
 - d. because he thought the teacher wouldn't notice
5. What two blue items did Jayden have on his list?

water

and

the sky

ANSWER KEY

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