The Strange Star

By Nikki Aksamit

Rosie loved watching the night sky. It shined with so many stars. Sometimes, she would climb onto Papa's shoulders. She'd feel like a princess, sitting closer to those stars.

The next morning, they went back to the beach and Rosie gathered seashells. Rosie found something strange. It looked like a big, orange, bumpy star. Had it fallen from the sky? And why wasn't it glowing?

“It’s not a star.” Papa smiled. “It’s a starfish. It lives in the ocean.” Rosie put the starfish in the ocean. They watched the waves wash it back home.

Then Rosie looked for more starfish. She liked stars AND starfish.
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1. When does Rosie find a starfish?
   a. at the beach  b. at night
   c. in her backyard  d. in the morning

2. What did Rosie do right after she found a starfish?
   a. She gathered shells.  b. She climbed on papa's shoulders.
   c. She went to the beach.  d. She put the starfish in the ocean.

3. What did Rosie do right before she found a starfish?
   a. She looked up in the night sky.  b. She collected seashells.
   c. She looked for more starfish.  d. She watched the waves take the starfish away.

4. When Papa first took Rosie to the beach at night, she didn’t see any stars. Why?
   ____________________________________________

5. About how old do you think Rosie is? How can you tell?
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

6. Think up another creative title for this story.
   ____________________________________________

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Use words from the story, “The Strange Star” to complete the crossword.

Across
1. type of weather in which a cloud covers the ground
4. color made by mixing red and yellow
6. made a sad face
8. joints that connect arms to the body
9. giant body of saltwater
10. collected

Down
2. shining in the dark
3. sandy or rocky place where the ocean meets the shore
5. ocean creature with 5 arms
7. day that follows today
8. odd; unusual
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   Answers will vary.
ANSWER KEY

The Strange Star

Preview
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8. joints that connect arms to the body
9. giant body of saltwater
10. collected

5. ocean creature with 5 arms
7. day that follows today
8. odd; unusual