

Name: _____

Road Trip

by Kelly Hashway

Daniel was so excited he was almost bouncing in the backseat of the car. It was his first trip to Disney World, and he couldn't wait to get there. Only that's exactly what he would have to do. Wait. For countless hours.



At first it wasn't too bad. He played all the silly car games he could think of with his brother Emmet and his parents. They found all the letters of the alphabet in different signs along the highway. They guessed numbers between one and a hundred and played twenty questions. They even counted all the license plates from different states. After that, Daniel took a nap out of sheer boredom. But he couldn't sleep any longer, and they were still hours from Disney World.

"Are we—"

"No, Daniel," his father said. "Please try to be patient. You were the one who picked the vacation spot this year. We told you it would be a long drive."

"Yeah, but this is so boring!" Daniel whined.

"It's more than boring," Emmet said. "It's torture."

"You want to hear about torture?" Dad asked. "When I was about your age, Daniel, Grandma and Grandpa took your aunt Jan and me to Disney World. About halfway there, Grandpa ran over a nail and we got a flat tire. Luckily we had a spare, but it took forever to change the tire because Grandpa dropped the lug nuts and they rolled into the highway. We had to flag down a police car to close the right lane so we could get the lug nuts."

Daniel laughed, picturing Grandpa running across the road looking for the lug nuts. "Grandpa must have been really mad!"

"Oh, he wasn't happy, but it gets worse," Dad said. "About fifty miles later, the engine died. Grandpa had to walk three miles to get to a pay phone and call for a tow truck."

"Why didn't he use his cell phone?" Daniel asked.

Dad laughed. "We didn't have cell phones back then."

"What happened next?" Daniel asked.

"We had to pay for a cheap motel room for the night while the car was in the shop being fixed. The hotel was filthy and the shower only had cold water. Even the diner next door was terrible. They served cold, runny eggs."

"You must have been happy to get back on the road," Daniel said.

"Yes, we were," Dad said.

Daniel looked at his mom. "Do you have any road trip stories from when you were growing up?"

"As a matter of fact, I have four or five funny stories," Mom said. "Do you want to hear them?"

Daniel nodded and glanced at the clock on the dashboard. He hoped they'd have enough time to hear them all.

About the 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.

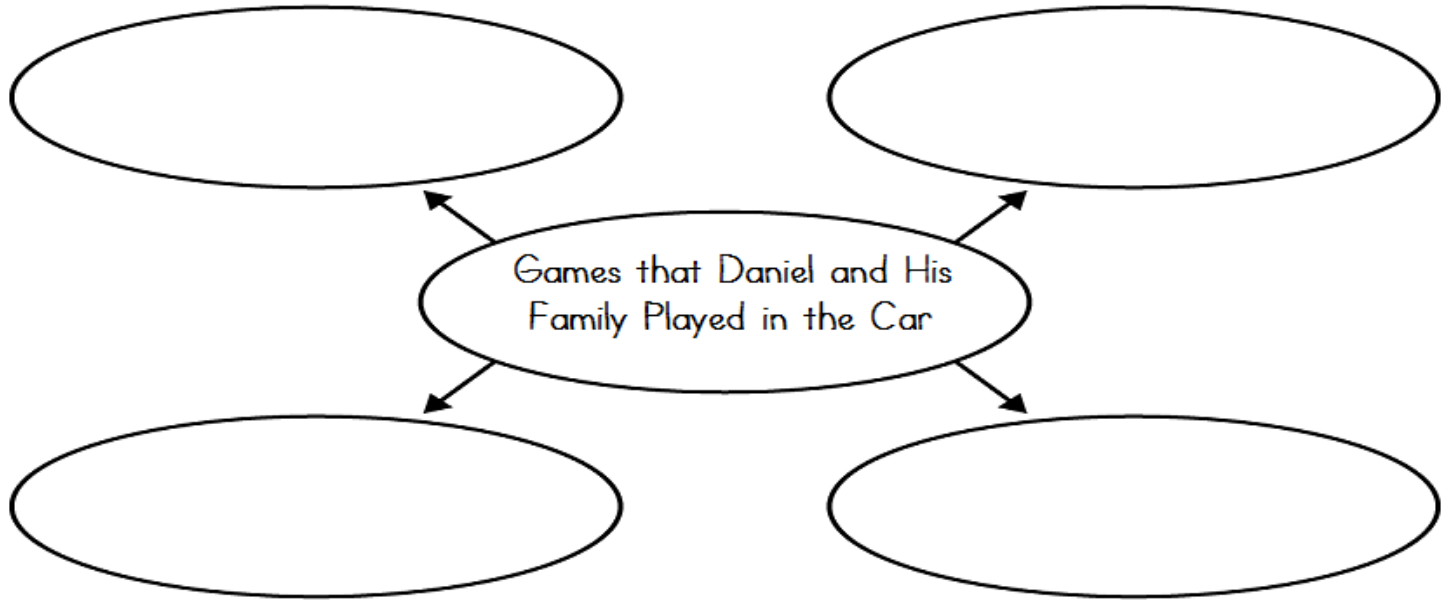
Name: _____

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1. Complete the graphic organizer.



2. When Daniel became bored in the car, what did his father do to help pass time?

3. Where was the family traveling?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| a. to New York | b. to Florida |
| c. to Texas | d. to Georgia |

4. Who was Aunt Jan?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. Daniel's mother's sister | b. Daniel's grandfather's sister |
| c. Daniel's father's sister | d. Daniel's sister |

5. In the story, grandpa dropped lug nuts which rolled into the highway. What do lug nuts do?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. hold wheels onto a car | b. fill tires with air |
| c. remove nails from a tires | d. help a car's wheels turn |

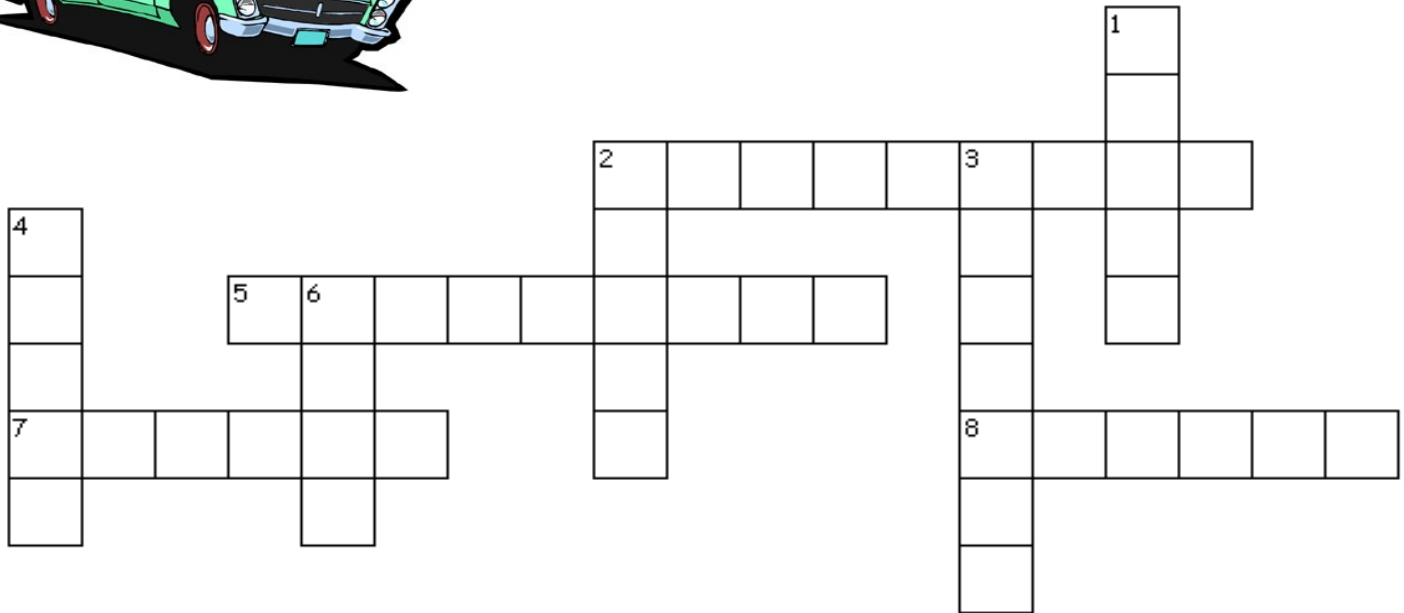
Challenge: On a separate sheet on paper, make a list of 8 things Daniel and his brother could do to amuse themselves in the car. List activities that are not mentioned in this story.

Name: _____



Road Trip

Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle



Use words from the story, "Road Trip" to complete the crossword.

Across

- 2. portable phone without wires
- 5. panel in a car with gauges and instruments to help the driver
- 7. machine that powers a car
- 8. complained in a high-pitched voice

Down

- 1. humorous
- 2. time-telling device
- 3. a busy road with many cars
- 4. place with rooms for travelers to stay overnight
- 6. mother or father's sister

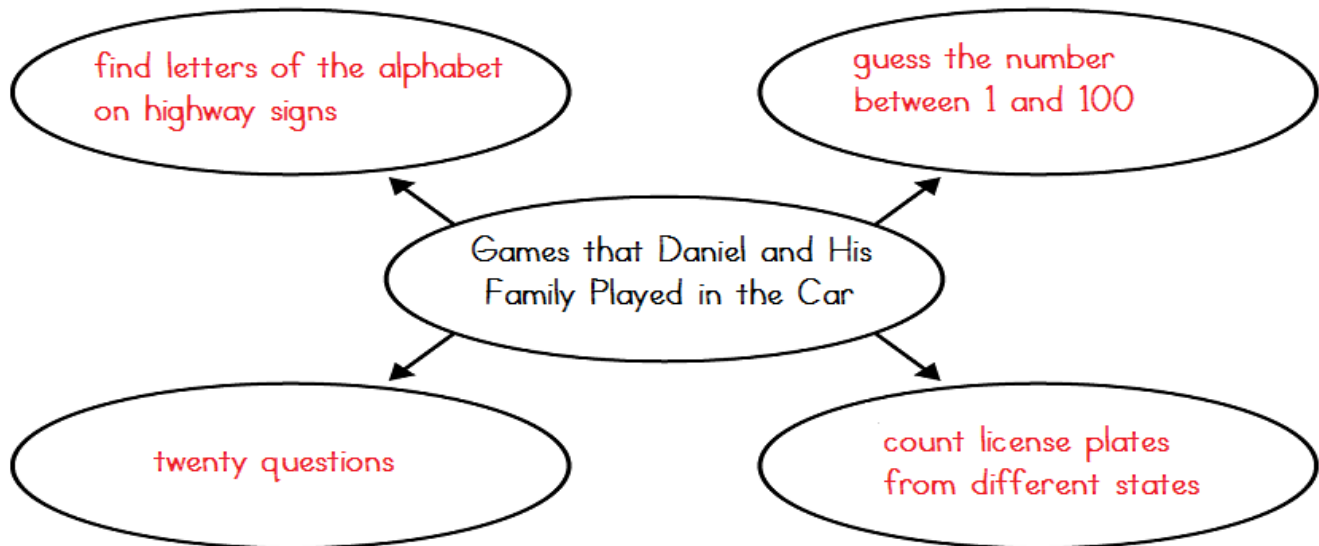
ANSWER KEY

Road Trip

by Kelly Hashway



1. Complete the graphic organizer.



2. When Daniel became bored in the car, what did his father do to help pass time?

He told a story about a road trip he took as a child.

3. Where was the family traveling?

- a. to New York
- b. to Florida
- c. to Texas
- d. to Georgia

4. Who was Aunt Jan?

- a. Daniel's mother's sister
- b. Daniel's grandfather's sister
- c. Daniel's father's sister
- d. Daniel's sister

5. In the story, grandpa dropped lug nuts which rolled into the highway. What do lug nuts do?

- a. hold wheels onto a car
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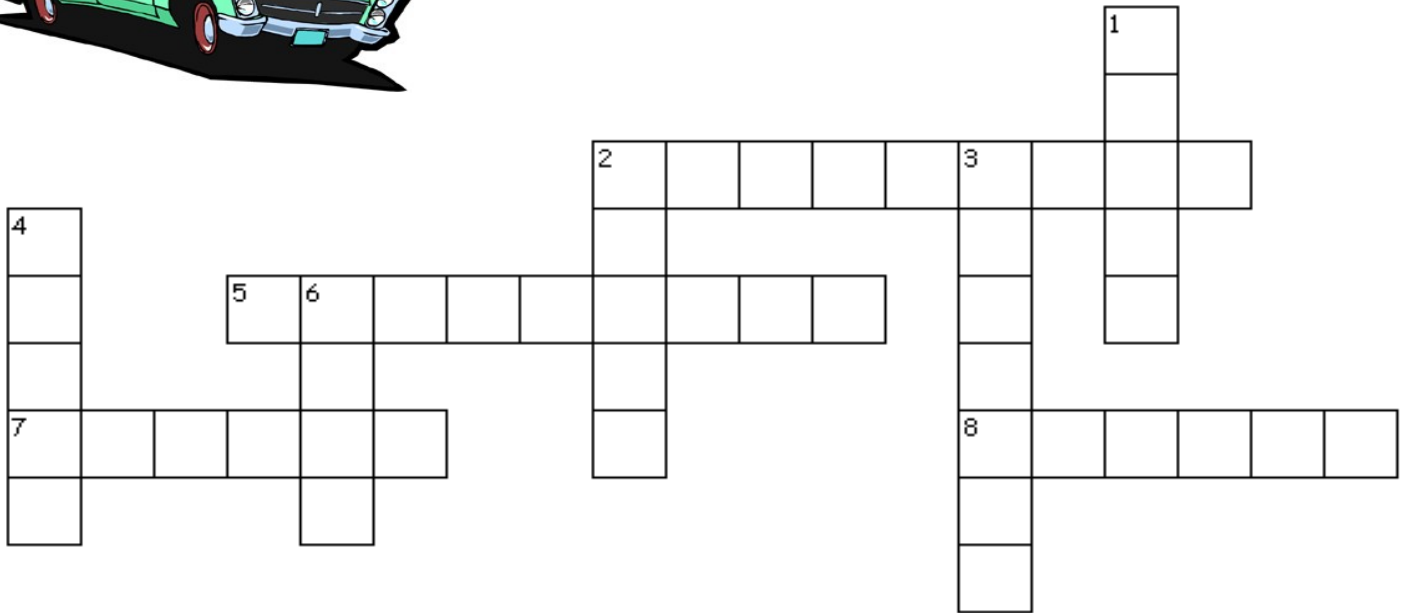
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ANSWER KEY



Road Trip

Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle



Use words from the story, "Road Trip" to complete the crossword.

Across

- 2. portable phone without wires (cell phone)
- 5. panel in a car with gauges and instruments to help the driver (dashboard)
- 7. machine that powers a car (engine)
- 8. complained in a high-pitched voice (whined)

Down

- 1. humorous (funny)
- 2. time-telling device (clock)
- 3. a busy road with many cars (highway)
- 4. place with rooms for travelers to stay overnight (motel)
- 6. mother or father's sister (aunt)