



Preview

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By Kelly Hashway

Shadow

than groaned as Kyle stepped off the bus and hurried to catch up with him. Having Kyle for a neighbor was like having a permanent shadow.

"What are you doing this afternoon?" Kyle asked.

"I'm skateboarding with Mason."

Ethan picked up his pace, hoping Kyle would take the hint and stop following him.

Kyle smiled. "Cool. I love skateboarding. I'll grab my board."

Before Ethan could protest, Kyle took off across his lawn and inside his house.

Ethan shook his head, trying to come up with a plan to ditch Kyle.

"What's up, little bro?" Spencer said when Ethan got home.

"Kyle won't leave me alone. Everywhere I look, there he is. He just invited himself to go skateboarding with Mason and me. Can you believe that?"

"Hmm," Spencer said. "Come here. I want to show you something." Spencer led Ethan into the living room and to the





thought back to that summer. "Wait, so

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park," Spencer said. "Remember that?"

"Yeah, you won tickets at the summer carnival."

"Right. Check out the rest of the page," Spencer said. "Do you notice anything about all the pictures?"

Ethan scanned the photos. "Yeah, we had a lot of fun that summer."

Spencer sighed. "That was the summer before Mason moved to town. You tagged along with me and my friends everywhere we went."

"I did?" Ethan furrowed his brow as he

follows me around because he doesn't have a best friend like I do."

"Yes. Do you know anyone who you think might get along well with Kyle?"

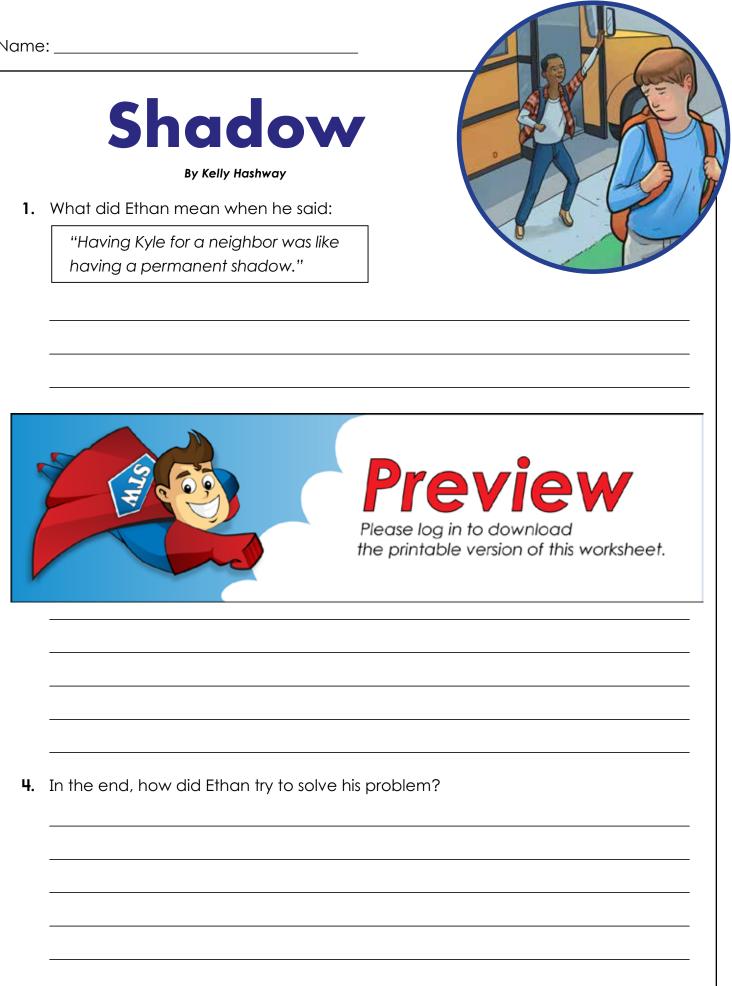
Ethan thought for a moment. "Tim's kind of quiet at school. I bet he'd love a new friend."

"Then call Tim and invite him along. He and Kyle might hit it off."

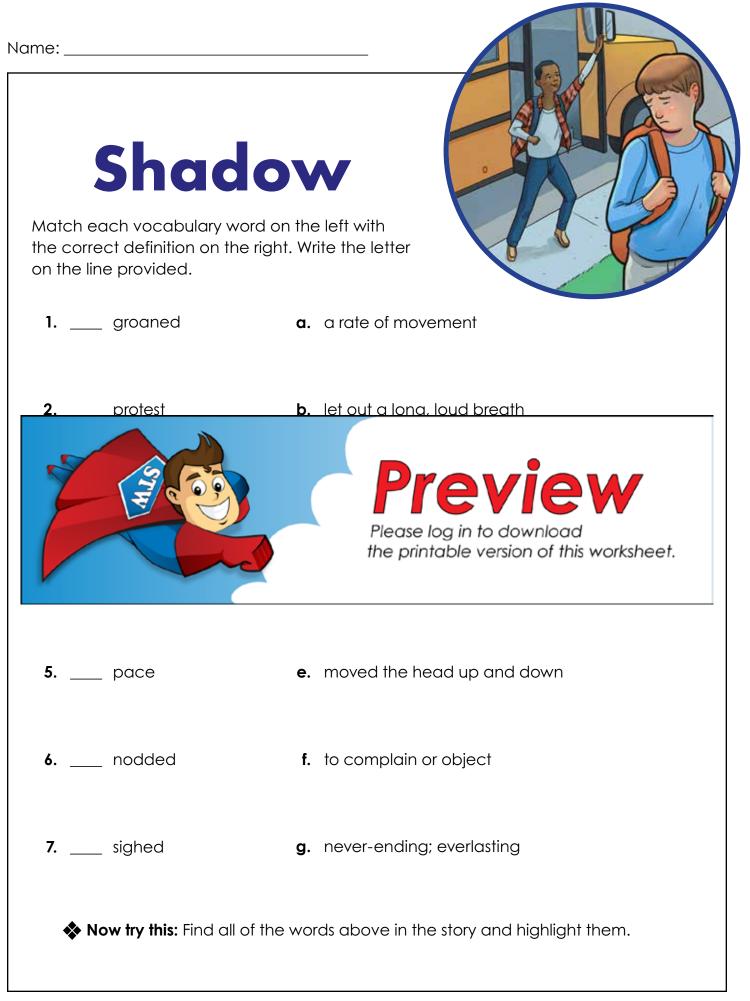
"Yeah, and if they don't, you can never have too many friends, right?" Ethan asked.

"Right, little bro."

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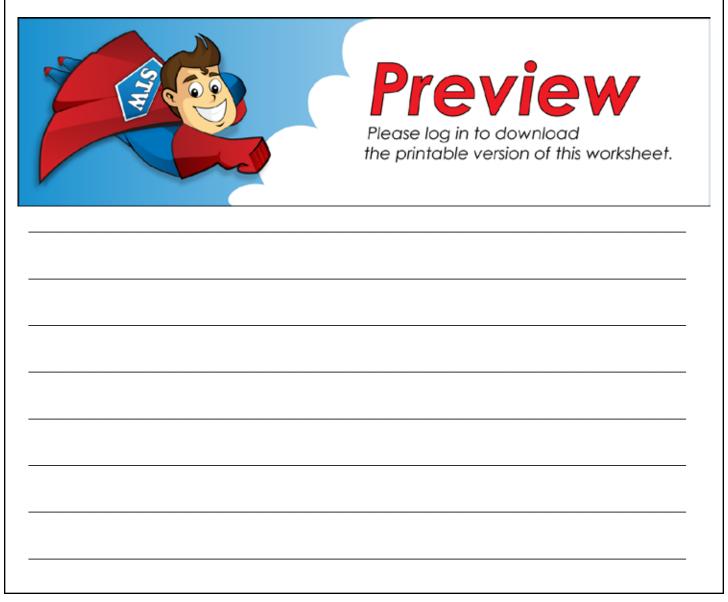
Name: _____

Shadow

In the story, "Shadow," Ethan was upset that Kyle always followed him around. However, with the help of his brother, Ethan learned an important lesson about showing compassion, or kindness to others. Sometimes, people just need a friend.



Have you ever had a shadow? Maybe it was a sister, brother, or friend. Or, have you ever been the shadow? Tell about a time in your life when you felt like either Ethan or Kyle. Be sure to tell how you felt and what happened.



ANSWER KEY

Shadow

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1. What did Ethan mean when he said:

"Having Kyle for a neighbor was like having a permanent shadow."

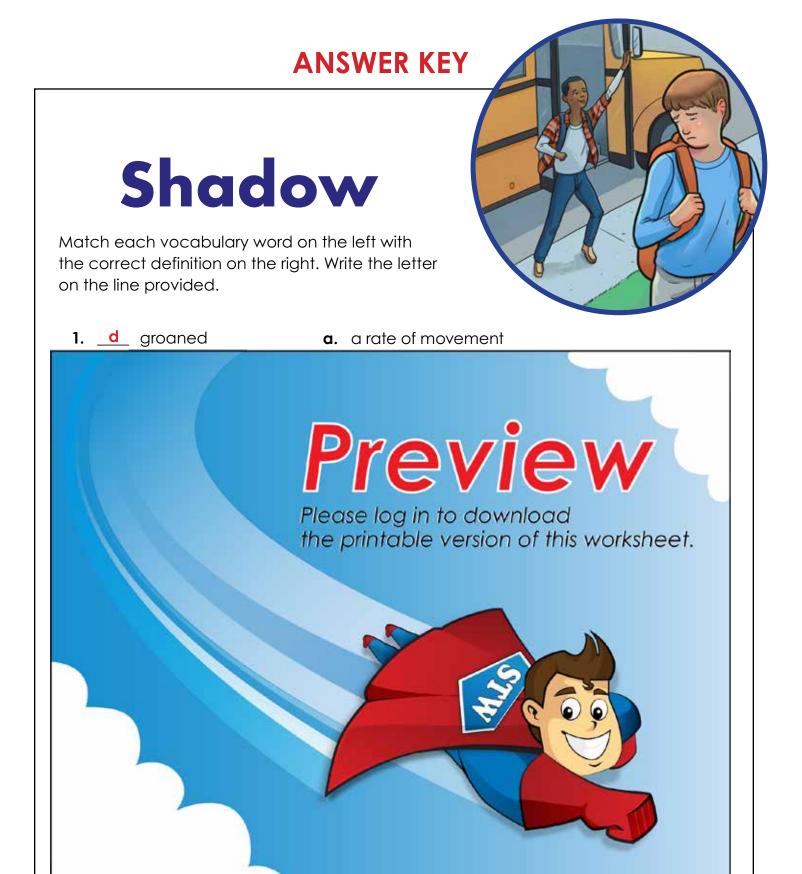




another boy from school who's quiet, but might get along really well with Kyle. Ethan

also learned that you can never have too many friends.

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