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Sibling Swap

By Kelly Hashway

Ted stared across the street where Mike and his older brother Aaron were shooting baskets in their driveway. Ted wished he had an older brother to teach him how to play sports. But instead he was stuck with Kate. All she liked to do was shop.

"Hey, Teddy bear!" Kate said, ruffling Ted's hair.

"Don't call me that." Ted stepped away from his sister. If only I could swap Kate for Aaron, he thought.

"I'm heading to the mall with Jackie. Do you want to come?"

"The mall? Definitely not."

Kate shrugged. "See you later." She walked next door to Jackie's house.

"Why couldn't I have an older brother? One who wouldn't mess up my hair and call me goofy names."

"Ted," his mother called. She hurried out of the house carrying her briefcase and car keys. "I got called "I'm thirsty," Aaron said. "Get me a drink."

"Want to come inside and see what we have?" Ted asked.

"Nah, I'm going keep shooting hoops."

Ted opened the front door as Aaron yelled, "Make me a sandwich, too!"

Ted grabbed some bottled water



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"Bye, Mom!" Ted yelled as he ran to meet Aaron. "Hey, Aaron. Do you want to play basketball?"

"Sure," Aaron said with a shrug.

At first Ted was too excited to care that Aaron was playing rough. He was just happy to have a stand-in older brother, even if it was only for a few hours. But once Aaron started ordering Ted around, things stopped being fun.

jacket on the ground and took a bite of sandwich. "Yuck, I hate salami!" He tossed the sandwich and grabbed the other one.

A car honked in front of the house and Kate stepped out. "Hey, Teddy bear, did you miss me?"

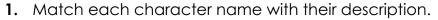
Ted looked at Aaron. Then his eyes fell to the partially eaten sandwich and his coat on the ground.

"Yeah, I did miss you, Kate."

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_____ Aaron a. Ted's sister
_____ Jackie b. Kate's brother
____ Mike c. Mike's brother
____ Ted d. Aaron's brother
Kate e. Kate's friend

2. Why did Aaron come over to Ted's house?





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4 Things Aaron Did That Ted Did Not Like

- **4.** What lesson is the author trying to teach with this story?
 - **a.** Older brothers are usually mean.
 - **b.** Don't ever wish for things.
 - **c.** Appreciate the people that care about you.
 - **d.** It is better to have a sister than a brother.

Sibling Swap

Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



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clue: case with a handle for carrying papers



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4. u i	g	
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clue: messing up by running a hand through

5. __ a __ _ c __

clue: two slices of bread with meat in between

6. __ _ p __

clue: slang word for basketball

7. ___ r † __ _ | | | ___

clue: not completely

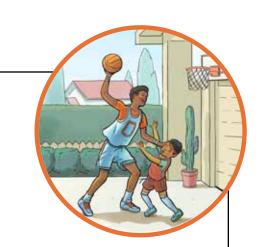
ANSWER KEY

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- 1. Match each character name with their description.
 - C Aaron
- a. Ted's sister
- <u>e</u> Jackie
- **b.** Kate's brother
- d__ Mike
- c. Mike's brother





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1. <u>b r</u> i e <u>f c a s e</u>

briefcase



clue: not completely