Name: _____ Date: _____

A Grey Day for Gus

Reading level 5 (2nd grade) · 177 words

Gus the hedgehog woke up sad.

He did not know why. The sky was grey. So was Gus.

Fox came by. "Let me tell you a joke!" he said.

Gus did not laugh. "Sorry," said Gus.

Duck came by. "Come and swim with me!" she said.

"Not today," said Gus. He felt like a stone.

Rain fell on the grass, drip, drip, drip.

Gus went and sat under a bush.

Then Rabbit came. She did not tell a joke.

She did not ask Gus to swim. She sat down by him.

"I am sad," said Gus. "I do not know why."

"That is okay," said Rabbit. "I can sit here with you."

They sat and sat. The rain fell on the leaves.

Rabbit held up her big umbrella for them both.

Then the rain was just a soft hum.

Bit by bit, the grey got thin.

At dusk, the sun peeked out. Gus felt a little bit lighter.

He was still a bit sad. But he was not alone.

"Thank you for sitting with me," said Gus.

Questions

1. Who is sad in this story?

A. Fox
B. Duck
C. Gus

2. What does Fox try to tell?

A. A lie
B. A joke

C. A song

3. What does Rabbit do?

A. Sits with Gus
B. Tells a joke
C. Goes to swim

4. Why does Gus say "Sorry" to Fox?

A. He was late
B. He did not laugh at the joke
C. He lost his hat

5. How does Gus feel at the end?

A. Very cross
B. Hungry
C. A bit lighter

Words to know

grey: like rain clouds
sad: unhappy
hedgehog: a spiny animal
umbrella: a rain shield
lighter: not so heavy

Answer key: A Grey Day for Gus

1. C. Gus
2. B. A joke
3. A. Sits with Gus
4. B. He did not laugh at the joke
5. C. A bit lighter