Name: _____ Date: _____

# The Octopus Who Got Out

Reading level 7 (3rd grade) · 203 words

Olive was a giant Pacific octopus. She lived in a big tank at the aquarium. She had eight long, soft arms.

One morning the workers found the tank lid loose. Olive was not inside. They found her in a bucket by the sink.

The next morning it happened again. Olive was fine, behind a box. The workers wondered how she did it.

Ben was a worker. "An octopus can squeeze through a tiny space," he said. "Olive only needs a little gap."

That night the workers hid and watched. Olive's arms crept out from under the lid. Her skin turned rock-colored to blend in.

She slid across the floor, as quiet as a shadow. Octopuses are mostly active at night. Olive was wide awake.

"I think she is bored," said Ben. "Octopuses are smart. Olive needs something to think about."

Next the workers put a shrimp in a clear jar. They screwed the lid on tight. They put the jar in Olive's tank.

Olive found the jar right away. She turned it, tapped it and twisted the lid. All night she worked at it.

Pop! The lid came off, and Olive ate her shrimp. She stayed in her tank, too busy to wander.

## Questions

**1. Where did the workers find Olive the first time?**

A. In the next tank
B. In a bucket by the sink
C. In the jar

**2. How did Olive get out of the tank?**

A. The workers let her out
B. She jumped over the lid
C. She squeezed through a tiny gap

**3. What did the workers put in the clear jar?**

A. A shrimp
B. A rock

C. A crab shell

**4. Why did Olive keep getting out?**

A. She was lost
B. She was angry
C. She was bored and needed puzzles

**5. What happened after Olive opened the jar?**

A. She slipped out again
B. She stayed in her tank
C. She stopped eating

**6. What does "bored" mean?**

A. Having nothing to do
B. Very hungry
C. Tired out

## Words to know

octopus: a sea animal with arms
aquarium: a place with fish tanks
workers: people at a job
squeeze: press through a space
bored: having nothing to do
wander: go off on your own

# Answer key: The Octopus Who Got Out

1. B. In a bucket by the sink
2. C. She squeezed through a tiny gap
3. A. A shrimp
4. C. She was bored and needed puzzles
5. B. She stayed in her tank
6. A. Having nothing to do