

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, January 3



## "It's Your Fault!"

By Brenda B. Covert

Tate and Max were friends. They liked to play games. On rainy days, they played board games and video games. Sometimes they played tag and hide-and-seek. Tate's mother did not like it when they played those games in the house. It was so hard to slow down and walk! Tate and Max were always in a hurry. Running was more fun!

"If you run in the house, something or someone will get hurt," Tate's mother always said.

One day as they hurried from Tate's bedroom to the backyard, someone bumped a table. It was a small, round table. It held a set of angels and a small lamp. One of the angels fell to the floor. The boys heard an awful sound. It was the breaking sound that no child likes to hear.

"Oh no!" Tate said, bending down. "Look what you did!" He held up the angel. One wing had broken off.

"I didn't do that!" Max said. He sounded upset. "You bumped the table. It's your fault!"

"You made me bump into the table," Tate said firmly. "You pushed me into it!"



"I did not!" Max said, a little louder this time.

"You did too!" Tate yelled.

Tate's big sister, Layne, came out of her room. "Hey!" she called, "what is this?-Blame Someone Else Day? Tell me what happened."

Tate and Max loudly blamed each other for breaking the angel's wing. They did not sound like good friends any more.

Layne frowned. She shook her head. When the boys stopped talking, she asked, "Do you know that taking the blame for your mistakes is a sign of manhood? You'll never be truly grown up until you can face the music when you are wrong."

"What?" Max did not know Layne very well. Sometimes she didn't make sense.

"One of you did this. Why not admit it and be done with it?" Layne asked.

The boys still blamed each other. No one took Layne's advice. Then Max got his coat and left. He did not want to play with a liar.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, January 3



"It's Your Fault!"

## Questions

---

1. How many people spoke in this story? Name them.

---

---

---

2. What part of the games 'tag' and 'hide-and-seek' did Tate's mother not like?

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. What was the setting for this story?

- A. Tate's house
- B. Max's house
- C. Tate's backyard
- D. a rainy day

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which of these words rhymes with the word "fault" in the story's title?

- A. start
- B. shout
- C. salt
- D. failed

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. What did Layne mean by "face the music"? Choose the best answer.

- A. not making things worse
- B. waste no time
- C. accept the bad results of something you did
- D. a song will make them feel better

6. Tate and Max played the \_\_\_\_\_ game. (fill in the blank with a word that rhymes with "game.")

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. What caused the angel's wing to break?

- A. the boys running in the hall
- B. Max pushing Tate
- C. Tate disobeying his mother
- D. Tate bumping into the table

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Who do you think was at fault for breaking the angel?

- A. someone else
- B. Layne
- C. Tate
- D. Max

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, January 3



## Stickers and Bananas

By Phyllis Naegeli

Melissa sat on a bench outside school watching the buses pull up to the curb. The door of the first bus opened, and her friend Caroline stepped off. Caroline walked over and stopped in front of her. Melissa looked down at the ground and pouted.

Caroline put her hands on her hips. "What's your problem?"

"I'm just having a bad day," said Melissa in a grumpy voice.

"You don't remember, do you?" asked Caroline as she sat down next to Melissa.

"Remember what?" Melissa asked puzzled.

"Today is The Great American Grump Out. Don't you remember? We talked about it last week," said Caroline.

"Oh, I forgot!" said Melissa, putting her hand to her mouth.

Caroline frowned. "You just can't be grumpy today! We're supposed to pass out smiley face stickers and encourage everyone to be cheerful. You're going to ruin it if you can't smile."

Melissa giggled. "Now you're the one who's grumpy."



Caroline let out a yell and then started laughing. "It's all your fault!"

The two girls laughed together for a few minutes.

"I feel better now," said Melissa. "I guess I just got up on the wrong side of the bed today."

"What does that mean, anyway?" said Caroline, chuckling a little more.

"Oh, I don't know. Maybe it's like getting off on the wrong foot," said Melissa, giggling.

Caroline reached into her backpack and pulled out a small package. "Here are your stickers. Let's go over what we're going to do. Give everyone you can a smiley face sticker and say 'SMILE.'" She reached into her backpack again. "Here. I brought you something," she said as she handed a banana to Melissa.

Melissa looked puzzled. "A banana?"

"Yup, according to the website, it's the official fruit for today. Hold it up sideways."

Melissa held the banana up sideways with the ends pointing down.

"Not that way! Turn it over so the ends point up," said Caroline, reaching for the banana and helping Melissa turn it over.

"See? It makes a smile," said Caroline, holding another banana the same way.

"Cute," said Melissa. "Come on, we need to get to class. Let's see how many stickers we can give away before the

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, January 3



bell rings."

The girls stood up and headed into school. Caroline took her jacket off as they walked into the building. She was wearing a t-shirt with a big smiley face on the front. Across the bottom of her shirt under the face was the word "SMILE."

"Great t-shirt," Melissa said sadly. "I'm sorry I forgot about today."

"It's O.K.," said Caroline, putting her arm around her friend's shoulder. "Let's just make it the best day ever!"

"We will!" Melissa said brightly.

As they walked down the hall toward their classroom, the girls took stickers and put them on their friends' shirts, books, or anywhere they could reach quickly.

"It's The Great American Grump Out," said Melissa as she stuck a smiley face sticker on Jacob's shirt. "Smile!"

Jacob looked at the sticker and smiled hesitantly. "Thanks."

"Hey, Todd! It's The Great American Grump Out! Have a banana! And a sticker!" Caroline said as she reached out and stuck a sticker on Todd's shirtsleeve.

Todd stopped in front of Caroline and peeled the sticker off. He looked at it and laughed. "What's The Great American Grump Out?"

"It's today," said Melissa.

"I figured that," Todd said sarcastically. "But WHAT is it?"

Caroline explained, "It's a day to stop being grumpy. The world is too grumpy. Everybody is so busy and stressed that no one takes the time to smile or try to make someone happy. I read about it online and I thought it would be fun to help people lighten up a little. So I bought smiley face stickers and bananas to hand out."

"Why bananas?" asked Todd.

"When you point the ends up, it makes a smile!" said Melissa, holding a banana with the ends pointing up. "See?"

"Oh, right," said Todd, rolling his eyes.

"Do you want to help us?" asked Melissa.

"I don't know," said Todd, grimacing and shaking his head back and forth.

"Oh, come on. It'll be fun!" said Caroline. "Here are some stickers. Just smile and stick these on people. Tell them it's The Great American Grump Out," said Caroline.

"Oh, alright. I'll do it," said Todd a bit reluctantly.

Caroline explained a little more about the day to encourage Todd. "You know, stress can cause us to get sick. When we laugh, it can help us to feel better. We relax and look at things a lot differently when we have some humor in our lives. So if you know a good joke or two, go ahead and tell them to people. Just help your friends to get rid of their grumpiness!"

"Tell jokes, huh?" Todd said, tapping his finger on his

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, January 3



temple. "I'm sure I can come up with a couple."

"I'm sure you can," said Melissa, rolling her eyes.

"We better get to class; the bell is going to ring any second. See you later, Todd," said Caroline.

"Yeah, and thanks. I feel a joke coming on already," said Todd, waving to the girls as he walked away.

"Do you think he'll pass out the stickers?" asked Melissa.

"I think he will. You know how Todd loves to joke around," said Caroline.

"I guess you're right. He is a jokester. This is the perfect day for him," said Melissa.

"And us," said Caroline with a wink.

Stickers and Bananas

## Questions

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Where were Caroline and Melissa?
- A. at home
  - B. on the school bus
  - C. at the park
  - D. at school

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following happened first?
- A. Caroline gave Todd a sticker.
  - B. Melissa cheered up.
  - C. Caroline gave Melissa a banana.
  - D. Caroline got off the bus.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which of the following did not happen in the story?
- A. Todd ate the banana.
  - B. Melissa put a sticker on Jacob's shirt.
  - C. Todd took some stickers to pass out.
  - D. Caroline sat down with Melissa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which of the following are reasons Caroline gave for The Great American Grump Out?
- A. to help people lighten up
  - B. to try to make people smile
  - C. to help people get rid of grumpiness
  - D. all of the above
  - E. a and b only
5. What do you think "getting up on the wrong side of the bed" means?

---

---

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. What did Caroline give Todd?
- A. a banana
  - B. a sticker
  - C. a banana and a sticker
  - D. none of the above



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday, January 4



## Ode to Autumn

By Beth Beutler

---

Ah, autumn.

Time of leaves falling.

Of crisp, cool air.

The crunch of a fresh  
apple.

The scent of a campfire.



Donning light jackets.

Harvest celebrations.

Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Family and friends.

Jumping in leaf piles.

Hikes in woods carpeted with color.

School every day.

Festivals. Pumpkins. Dried corn stalks.

A nip in the air that says, "Winter's coming!"

The occasional warm day that says, "But it's not here yet!"

I love autumn.

It's a time of change.

Shedding the old.

Making time for rest before something fresh and new  
blooms.

It is a season for thinking, for planning ahead.

A season for beginning new routines.

Moderate Autumn.

Frisky, crispy, chilling bridge

Between summer and winter.

Ode to Autumn

### Questions

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In what format do you think this poem is written?
- A. Riddle
  - B. Free verse
  - C. Haiku
  - D. Rhyming
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following do you think best describes this format?
- A. A poem that follows strict rules of beat and meter.
  - B. A poem without form or meter.
  - C. A very long, flowing poem.
  - D. A poem for which a writer does not get paid.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday, January 4



3. The writer mentions several thoughts about autumn. Does she like autumn? If so, how can you tell?

---

---

---

4. The writer calls autumn a "bridge." Why?

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. According to the poem, autumn is a season of extreme temperatures.

- A. False
- B. True

6. When the writer talks of "shedding the old," what might she be picturing?

---

---

---

7. Which two holidays are mentioned?

---

---

---

8. In what season would "something fresh and new bloom"?

---

---

---



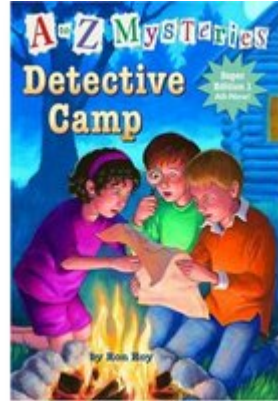
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday, January 4



## Ron Roy: Never Give Up!

By Brandi Waters

Have you ever tried really hard at something? Have you ever failed? Did someone tell you no? How did it make you feel? Did you keep trying? Did you give up? Ron Roy hopes that you will keep trying. He knows that one day, your hard work will pay off. He knows because it happened to him!



Ron Roy grew up in the 1950s. He lived in a small town in Connecticut. He went to a tiny school. After school he played in the woods behind his house. On the weekends he went to the movie theater with his friends. When Ron Roy was nine years old, he was given a book for his birthday. The book told a magical story. It made him want to read more and more. It made him want to write stories of his own.

Ron Roy kept reading as he went through school. He loved to read. It didn't matter what the story was. He loved them all. This love for books led him to study English in college. A love for children made him want to be a teacher. After several years in school, Ron Roy started teaching. He became a fourth grade teacher. Books and stories were all around him. One day, he knew - he wanted to write books, too.

So, Ron Roy got to work. Every evening after he came home from school he wrote. As soon as his story was

finished, he started another one. Some stories were written in a day. Others took several days. Some took weeks to write. When each story was finished, he put it in the mail. He sent every story to a book publisher. Soon, the replies started coming back to him. Each one was the same. "No." "Sorry." "We're not interested." No one wanted to print his stories. Still, Ron Roy did not give up. He kept writing. Four years later, nothing had changed...until one day, it did. One day, a letter came in the mail that said, "We would love to publish your book." Ron Roy was over the moon. All of his hard work had finally paid off!

Today, Ron Roy has more than fifty published books! He isn't a teacher anymore, but he still talks with children a lot. He visits schools. He talks about his books. He talks about reading. He talks about writing. He loves his job as an author. It is everything that he dreamed it would be.

Ron Roy: Never Give Up!

### Questions

1. When Ron Roy was a boy, he liked to \_\_\_\_\_ on the weekends.
  - A. go fishing
  - B. go to the movies
  - C. play in the woods behind his house
  - D. go to the library
2. Ron Roy was a \_\_\_\_\_ teacher.
  - A. English
  - B. high school
  - C. math
  - D. fourth grade



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, January 5



## Grandpa's in the Doghouse

By Phyllis Naegeli

"Goodbye, Grandma." Tears welled up in Jessie's eyes as she put the phone down.

"What's wrong?" asked her brother, Scott.

"It's Grandpa," said Jessie, breaking down and sobbing.

Scott got a little alarmed. "What's wrong with Grandpa?"

"Grandma said that he was in the doghouse," said the little girl, trying to control her sobs.

Scott realized his little sister didn't understand. "Oh!" he said, trying not to grin.

"I don't want Grandpa to have to live in the doghouse," said Jessie.

Scott tried to look serious to keep up the charade. "What can we do to get him out?" he asked.

"I don't know!" said Jessie, anxiously. "But we need to think of something fast!"

"We need to find out why Grandpa's in the doghouse in the first place," said Scott. "Maybe we should go to Grandma's and Grandpa's and rescue him."

"That's a good idea," said Jessie, suddenly cheering up.



"Let's go right now!"

Scott smiled. "O.K., but we need to tell mom we're going. You get your shoes on, and I'll go tell her."

"O.K.," said Jessie, striding to the back door.

Scott shook his head and laughed. Then he went into the living room to find his mom. She was sitting at a desk in the corner. He walked over to where she was and tapped her on the shoulder. Mom turned around in her chair.

"Jessie and I are going over to Grandma's."

"Why? Do they need something?" asked Mom.

"No. Jessie was talking to Grandma on the phone. Grandma said something about Grandpa being in the doghouse. Jessie thinks he's really IN the doghouse. So we're going to go rescue him," Scott explained.

Mom raised her eyebrows and grinned at Scott. "And WHY does she think he's really in the doghouse?"

"Because I let her think that," said Scott with a clever grin.

Mom shook her head. "She's going to be upset when she finds out you knew all along."

"I know, but it will be fun. Besides, we get to go say hi to Grandma and Grandpa. You know how much they like that."

"It's a good thing they live on the next street," said Mom. "O.K., you can go. Just be home in about an hour for supper."

"We will," said Scott as he walked away.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, January 5



Scott headed out the back door and found Jessie sitting on the steps wiping tears from her eyes.

"You don't need to cry," he said. "Grandpa will be fine."

"How do you know?"

"I just know. Come on, let's go rescue him."

A few minutes later, they arrived at their grandparent's house. Jessie ran around to the back.

Scott chased after her yelling, "Wait for me!"

Jessie went straight over to the doghouse. She pulled back the small curtain that covered the door and looked inside. It was empty.

"He's not there," said Jessie as she peered inside the doghouse.

"Who's not there?" asked a voice behind them.

"Grandpa!" said Jessie, running into his arms. "You're out of the doghouse!"

"Well, not exactly," said Grandpa.

"I don't understand," said Jessie. "You're not in the doghouse anymore!"

Grandpa laughed. "Did you really think I was IN the doghouse?"

"That's what I heard Grandma say," said the little girl,

puzzled.

Scott and Grandpa laughed together.

"What's so funny?" asked another voice.

"Hi Grandma," said Scott. "Jessie thought Grandpa was really IN the doghouse. So we came to rescue him."

Jessie looked at Scott and scowled. "You tricked me!"

Grandma reached down and scooped the little girl up in her arms. "Grandpa wasn't really IN the doghouse. He just forgot to take out the trash. I like to tease him when he forgets to do something. It's an old expression we use when someone forgets something or gets in trouble."

"Oh," said Jessie, glaring at Scott. "Now I understand."

Scott rolled his eyes and pretended not to notice Jessie glaring at him.

"Scott, is there something you want to say to Jessie?" said Grandma.

"I'm sorry I tricked you," Scott said humbly.

"I forgive you," said Jessie, turning her attention to Grandpa. "We came to rescue you, but you don't need to be rescued. Do we have to go home now?"

Grandpa looked at Scott.

"Mom said we should be home in an hour," said Scott.

"Then, how about some lemonade?" said Grandma.

"Sounds great!" said Scott.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, January 5



## Grandpa's in the Doghouse

### Questions

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Why did Jessie think Grandpa was in the doghouse?
- A. because Scott said he was
  - B. because Mom said he was
  - C. because Grandma said he was
  - D. all of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Where was Mom?
- A. at the store
  - B. in the living room
  - C. at Grandma's
  - D. in the kitchen
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Why was Scott alarmed when Jessie hung up the phone?
- A. because Jessie laughed when she hung up the phone
  - B. because the phone broke when Jessie put it down
  - C. because Jessie was crying when she hung up the phone
  - D. because Jessie slammed the phone down
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Why did Mom think Jessie would be upset with Scott?
- A. because he knew how to get Grandpa out of the doghouse
  - B. because he knew what "in the doghouse" meant and didn't tell Jessie
  - C. because he knew where Grandpa was
  - D. because he knew the doghouse was empty
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Jessie ran in the front door of her grandparent's house.
- A. false
  - B. true
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. After Jessie and Scott arrived at their grandparent's home, who greeted them first?
- A. Mom
  - B. Grandpa
  - C. Grandma
  - D. no one
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. What does the expression "in the doghouse" mean?
- A. someone is upset about having a trick played on him or her
  - B. someone is happy about something he or she did
  - C. someone is missing or ran away
  - D. someone forgot something or is in trouble
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Grandma offered everyone some iced tea.
- A. true
  - B. false
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Use clues in the story to help you choose the best meaning for the word *charade*, used in this sentence:
- Scott tried to look serious to keep up the charade.*
- A. apology
  - B. trick
  - C. sadness
  - D. mood

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, January 5



## Piece of Cake!

By Beth A. Beutler

---

"Red velvet cake," answered Miranda.

"Strawberry Shortcake," said Mom.

The Williams' family was on a long road trip. They were playing a game in the car. They were shouting out names of cakes. No one knew how the game started. They were having a great time though!



"Carrot cake," Dad added.

"Marble cake," Ted said.

"Cupcake!" said Miranda.

"Piece of cake!" said Mom.

"Ah, Mom, that doesn't count," they all teased.

"Okay, then," Mom said thoughtfully, "How about cheesecake?"

"Honey, I'm not sure that counts," Dad said gently.

"Why not?"

"It's not really cake!"

"Who says?" Mom argued while playfully swatting Dad on the arm.

"It's really more like pie, wouldn't you say?" Ted added.

"I suppose so," Mom answered. "However, it's one of my favorite desserts, and I say it counts."

Everyone laughed and agreed it could count. It added a whole new dimension to the game.

"Blueberry Cheesecake," Dad shouted. Mom looked at him sideways and then rolled her eyes.

"Well, you're the one who said it could count, so I'm going to take advantage of it."

"Strawberry Cheesecake," said Ted.

"Chocolate Cheesecake," said Miranda.

"Peach Cheesecake," said Mom.

"Caramel Cheesecake," said Dad.

They all stopped at that one. "Yummy! That's my favorite," said Miranda.

"This game is making me hungry," Dad said. "Let's stop for dessert."

"Now that's something we can all agree on!" replied Mom.

Dad drove for a while and then exited at an area that looked built up with businesses. He turned right onto a busy four-lane road.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday, January 5



"Start watching for restaurants," he said.

Miranda looked out the left window, and Ted looked out the right. Mom scanned the front.

They passed many businesses, stores, and eating places, but none looked suitable for dessert.

That was until Miranda observed, "Hey look, there's a Cheesecake Factory!"

Dad pulled over into the turn lane so they could go into the restaurant.

"Great eyes, Miranda," he said.

The family went in and sat down. The server approached with a smile and asked, "What can I get for you this evening?"

"Let's see your cheesecake menu," Mom said.

"Coming right up," the server said.

The family ordered a cheesecake sampler platter and had a great time devouring it.

Piece of Cake!

## Questions

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which of the following desserts was NOT mentioned in the story?

- A. Peach Cheesecake
- B. Seven-layer Cake
- C. Strawberry Shortcake
- D. Cupcake

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The family created a game while

- A. Eating dessert
- B. Sitting at a restaurant
- C. At home on family night
- D. On a road trip

3. Why did Dad say Mom's suggestion might not really fit the game?

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Who suggested "Caramel Cheesecake"?

- A. Miranda
- B. Dad
- C. Mom
- D. Ted





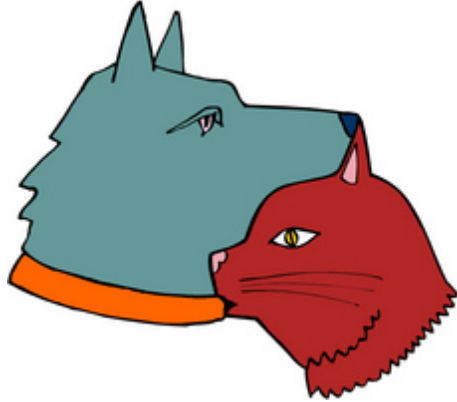
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday, January 6



## Cats vs. Dogs

By Brenda B. Covert

Deidra is my best friend, but some day she may make my head explode! I feel like I'm caught in a constant contest. When we take quizzes and tests, we look to see which of us got the better grade. We have to decide whose mother packs better lunches. Now we are arguing about which of us has the better pet! This is such a no-brainer. I do!



I have a cat named Sparkles, and Deidra has a dog named Jasper. I told her that cats make better pets because they are quiet, cute, and clean. They wash themselves with their tongues, and they use a litter box! Dogs, on the other hand, are noisy barkers, and they don't clean themselves or use a litter box. Dogs need someone to give them baths, walk them, and scoop up their messes. Dogs are more work.

Deidra says that cats are boring! She claims that dogs are friendlier and better at protecting their owners from strangers. Dogs can be trained to do tricks, she told me. I told her that the only trick I'd seen Jasper do is the one where he made her hot dog disappear when she wasn't looking.

So far, neither one of us has won this competition. I can see a storm brewing in Deidra's eyes. She takes our battles seriously. If we don't settle this argument soon, it may start

raining cats and dogs in here!

Cats vs. Dogs

## Questions

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In what point of view is this story written?
  - A. third person
  - B. All are correct.
  - C. first person
  - D. second person
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which one of these is NOT an argument in favor of cats?
  - A. Cats are cute.
  - B. Cats use a litter box.
  - C. Cats clean themselves.
  - D. Cats can be trained to do tricks.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which one of these is NOT an argument in favor of dogs?
  - A. Dogs are friendly.
  - B. Dogs can protect owners from strangers.
  - C. Dogs clean themselves.
  - D. Dogs can be trained to do tricks.
  
4. An idiom is an expression. The words in the expression may not make sense, and yet the meaning is often understood. Find the weather idiom and list it below.

---

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday, January 6



## Sweet Dreams!

By Colleen Messina

What is the perfect way to celebrate surviving the busy holiday season? Some people think that taking a nap is a great way to get back on track in the new year. A silly, unofficial holiday called the Festival of Sleep on January 3 gives people an excuse to do just that.



We spend a lot of time sleeping during our lifetime. Maybe that is one reason there are so many ways to describe this delightful interlude of doing absolutely nothing. You can take a nap or a snooze or a siesta. You can pass out or doze off.

It seems as though naps can be labeled in unique ways for different kinds of people. Feline fans can take catnaps. Idiom lovers can "catch forty winks." No matter what you call it, an interlude of rest can be most helpful.

Most people have strategies for getting better sleep. What helps you sleep well? Do you snuggle up under piles of cozy blankets? Do you have your window open for fresh air? Some people like to drink a cup of chamomile tea before bed. Others take a warm bath or shower. Maybe devoted sleepers can write a manual about how to enjoy this holiday. It could include some very important tips such as don't go to sleep on your desk so you don't get a stiff

neck!

The amount of sleep a person needs to feel great varies. Adults often need between seven and nine hours of sleep a night. Babies usually need twelve to eighteen hours of sleep each day. Some of those hours come from daytime naps. The best way to know how much sleep you need is to pay attention to how you feel. If you sleep eight hours but your face falls into your morning bowl of oatmeal as you nod off, you probably need a little more sleep! Many health professionals believe that sleep is a powerful tool for achieving good health. Maybe that is why some people call their fantastic, frequent forays into Dreamland "power naps."

So, if you are looking for a restful holiday, think about celebrating the Festival of Sleep day. The great thing about such a silly holiday is that you can celebrate it any way you want. Sleep lovers could sponsor a Sleeping Beauty pageant, but the contestants wouldn't know who won until the next morning. Sweet dreams!

Sweet Dreams!

## Questions

1. Which phrase from this article is an idiom?
  - A. the holiday season
  - B. during our lifetime
  - C. catching forty winks
  - D. take a warm bath or shower
2. The phrase "fantastic, frequent forays" is an example of a metaphor.
  - A. True
  - B. False

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday, January 6



\_\_\_\_\_ 3. According to the article, what might happen if you try to go to sleep on your desk?

- A. You might have a sore toe.
- B. You might be dumber when you wake up.
- C. You might have a stiff neck.
- D. You might be smarter when you wake up.

4. What kind of pageant did this article mention that could be sponsored by sleep lovers?

---

---

---

5. What do many health professionals believe about sleep?

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. When does this holiday occur?

- A. March
- B. April
- C. February
- D. January

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. How much sleep do babies usually need each day?

- A. 7 - 9 hours
- B. 10 - 11 hours
- C. 12 - 18 hours
- D. none of the above

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which of the following would probably not help you sleep well?

- A. drinking an energy drink
- B. drinking chamomile tea
- C. having comfortable bedding
- D. taking a warm bath

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Monday, January 9



## Naming Your Pet

By Brenda B. Covert

Welcoming a new pet into your family is an exciting event. Getting to choose a name for that pet is icing on the cake! There are so many choices. You don't want to make a mistake. You might name a white kitten Lily only to find out later that it's a Leo. It's helpful to know your pet's gender before you pick a name. Besides gender, there are other things to consider when choosing a name for your pet.



What does your pet look like? Some owners name their pets after the color of their fur, feathers, scales, or skin. Midnight, Smoky, Snowflake, Ginger, and Goldie are a few color choices. A pet with white paws or hooves might be named Boots, Socks, or Mittens. Tiger may be the name you choose for a striped pet. A turtle could be called Shelly. Tiny and Fluffy are other names based on a pet's looks.

How does your pet behave? A pet with a sweet nature might be given a name like Gumdrop, Peaches, or Cookie. Names like Dash, Rascal, Scrappy, and Mr. Wiggles might be a good fit for a busy pet.

Some people like to name their pets after favorites. You might name your pet after a favorite uncle! You might want

to name your pet after a favorite actor or singer. You might choose a name from a favorite book, movie, or TV show. Some owners even name their pets after a favorite food! Would you enjoy calling a pet Pickles, Fishsticks, or Cheesy Mac?

The name you choose should be a name you love. You may be using it for years to come! Your pet won't care what you call it, as long as you call it with love and caring.

### Naming Your Pet

### Questions

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which of these is an idiom?
  - A. white paws or hooves
  - B. icing on the cake
  - C. favorite food
  - D. sweet names
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of these is a fact?
  - A. A striped pet should be named Tiger.
  - B. The best part of getting a new pet is giving it a name.
  - C. Some owners name their pets after a favorite food.
  - D. Mr. Wiggles is a good name for a busy pet.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. It's helpful to know your pet's \_\_\_\_\_ before picking a name.
  - A. family
  - B. flavor
  - C. gender
  - D. wishes

