

4th grade

Extended Learning Day #5

Date of the snow day was _____

Extended Learning Day five is due one week from the date of the snow day.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In the event of a snow day, the fourth grade team has prepared an Extended Learning packet for your child to complete at home. Each packet will be comprised of an ELA component and a Math component. Students should meet grade-level expectations for neatness and quality to complete and return Extended Learning assignments within one week from the snow day. For example, if we have a snow day on a Tuesday, the Extended Learning assignments for that day will be due by the following Tuesday. In order for your child to be marked "present" on that day, the designated Extended Learning assignments for that particular snow day must be turned in on or by the due date. If the assignments are not turned in on time, your child will be marked "absent" for that day. The Extended Learning assignments will count as test grades in each respective subject area.



The Vegetable Thief

by Kyria Abrahams



Someone has been stealing from the community garden. Micky and Marnie want to find out who it is.

Marnie and Micky are brother and sister. They live in Irvine, California and volunteer at the community garden. Every day after school, they water the squash and the lettuce. They work hard and watch the trees grow. The vegetables are donated to food banks, so people don't go hungry.

Today, the food started to disappear. Marnie is the first to notice. She starts to water the squash like she always does. But instead of a plot of squash, there is only an empty hole.

"The...the...squash!" Marnie stammers.

"The squash has been *squashed!*" says Micky.

"We have to tell an adult!"

Across the field, they spot their neighbor, Hank. Hank is 80 years old and moving very slowly. Hank has trouble hearing.

"Hank, Hank! Someone is stealing vegetables!"

"Eh? I can't hear ya," he says, putting his hand to his ear.

"Someone stole all the squash!" says Marnie.

"Eh? Someone scalded the wash?"

"There's a thief!"

"I'm no *chieff*!" Hank says. "Now get back to work, ya slackers!"

"Hank can't hear a word we're saying!" says Micky. He kicks a rock with his foot. Thud!

A small rabbit comes out from underneath some lettuce. The rabbit is rubbing his head. The rabbit gives them a mean look and then hops away. His white, fluffy tail is shining in the sun.

"If I didn't know better, I'd think that rabbit is mad at you," says Marnie.

Marnie and Micky walk away with their heads low. Missing squash *and* an angry rabbit? This day is going terribly. They get on their bikes and ride home along the bike path. The wind is in their hair, and it feels like they are flying. For a moment, they forget all about the missing vegetables.

The sun is starting to set in the sky when they finally get back home. They are late for dinner.

"I told you to be home at 5:00!" Mom says.

"But Mom! There's a thief at the garden! He stole our squash!"

"Missing squash, you say?" she says. "Well, wasn't the squash your responsibility?"

"Uh, I guess so," says Marnie. "It is our responsibility to water it!"

"Then it's your responsibility if someone steals it. It's also your responsibility to get home on time."

Marnie looks down at her plate and lets out a large gasp. Her plate is filled with yellow squash. Micky and Marnie look at each other.

"You don't think *Mom* could be the squash thief, do you?" asks Marnie.

"Geez, I sure hope not," says Micky.

There's so much squash on their plates, they aren't sure what to believe.

The next day, they go back to the garden. Again, no one else is there except old Hank. This time, there are two empty plots. Now all the broccoli is missing, too.

"This is outrageous!" cries Marnie. "We are the only people who know this is happening! But no one will listen to us because we're kids!"

"It's not fair being a kid," says Micky. "Everybody thinks we're making up stories."

Micky kicks a rock again. Once again, the rock goes under some lettuce. THUD! Another rabbit comes out, rubbing his head.

"What on earth..." says Micky. "How could I possibly hit the same rabbit twice in two days?"

The rabbit turns and hops away, showing a fluffy, black tail.

"Wait. That rabbit yesterday had a white tail. This rabbit has a black one. This is a different rabbit!"

"Follow him!"

The two siblings chase the rabbit. As they run, other rabbits appear from their hiding spots in the lettuce. Soon, there are hundreds of rabbits. Marnie and Micky are no longer chasing one rabbit. Now, they are being chased *by* the rabbits!

Rabbits in front! Rabbits behind!

"Run away from the rabbits!" yells Marnie.

"How? They're everywhere!"

"Make a quick right! Jump! Now!" Marnie says. They jump to the right. The rabbits keep running right by them. The siblings hide underneath a patch of green beans.

"Look!" Micky says, pointing straight ahead.

The rabbits are still running. The rabbits are also *stealing*. As they run, they grab stalks of leafy greens in their mouths. This is daylight robbery!

"I guess we found our thieves," Marnie says. "And it's not Mom!"

"Unless Mom is a rabbit!" says Micky.

"It's too bad we're kids. No one will believe us." Marnie says.

"*Ahem!*" A loud voice echoes above them. "I believe you."

Old Hank is standing there. He saw the whole thing.

"Now do you see, Hank?" asks Marnie.

"I may be deaf, but I ain't blind," says Hank. "I admit I thought it was you kids who were stealing those vegetables. I've been trying to catch you in the act! But now I see the truth. It's these rabbits!"

"We know who the real thieves are!" says Micky. "We need to protect our vegetables."

"That's true," says Hank. "The rabbits certainly are *flexible*."

"No!" says Micky and Marnie. "The *vegetables!*"

"*Respectable?*" asks Hank.

"The *garden!*" the children yell at the top of their lungs.

"The *varmint?* They're not respectable! They steal!"

"We need to build a *fence!*" yells Mickey.

"*Learn to dance?*" asks Hank. "I'm not teaching you how to dance! We need to build a fence!"

"Oh, forget it!" says Marnie.

"Forget it, is right" says Hank. "Now quit dancing and let's build a fence!"

"Tomorrow!" the kids say. "We've done quite enough for today!"

Micky and Marnie get on their bikes and ride home. For the time being, they forget all about the vegetable thieves and the naughty rabbits. They are flying through the air.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Where do Marnie and Micky volunteer?

- A. a nearby food bank
- B. their local library
- C. a community garden
- D. an after school program

2. What is the main problem that Marnie and Micky are dealing with?

- A. a water shortage
- B. getting home late
- C. stolen vegetables
- D. being very hungry

3. After Marnie and Micky find out the rabbits are eating the vegetables in the community garden, Micky suggests they build a fence. Based on this information, how might the fence be useful?

- A. The fence will help Marnie and Micky protect the rabbits from other animals.
- B. The fence will help Marnie and Micky water the vegetables more quickly.
- C. The fence will help keep the rabbits away from the vegetables.
- D. The fence will help keep other people away from the vegetables.

4. Why do Micky and Marnie think the rabbits stole the squash and the broccoli?

- A. Hank tells them that he saw the rabbits steal the squash and the broccoli.
- B. They see the rabbits stealing squash and broccoli as they are running away.
- C. They know that rabbits like to eat squash and broccoli.
- D. They see the rabbits stealing leafy greens in the community garden.

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A. the work done at food banks
- B. the relationships two siblings have with their mom
- C. how different people in a community respond to a recent disappearance of vegetables
- D. how two siblings figure out who is stealing vegetables from the community garden

6. The passage begins with the following sentences: "Someone has been stealing from the community garden. Micky and Marnie want to find out who it is."

Why does the author begin the passage this way?

- A. to let the reader know the main conflict
- B. to explain how the problem will be solved
- C. to list all of the characters in the story
- D. to give a hint to the reader about who is stealing

7. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Marnie and Micky's mother served a lot of squash for dinner the day the squash was missing. _____, Marnie and Micky thought she was the vegetable thief.

- A. However
- B. As a result
- C. Although
- D. On the other hand

8. Marnie and Micky think there is a thief stealing the vegetables from the community garden. Who do they try and tell about this?

9. Why does Hank have a hard time understanding what Marnie and Micky try to tell him?

10. What challenges do Marnie and Micky experience in their search for the vegetable thief? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

Math Research Project

Research a recipe to make gummy bears. List the ingredients needed to make gummy bears, then double the recipe (so if it asked for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cup, you would double it to $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups). Remember to show all of your mathematical calculations.

Then research the history of gummy bears and find out what year they were first manufactured and find out how many gummy bears are sold every year in the United States.

Recipe

What year were gummy bears first manufactured?

How many gummy bears are sold every year in the United States?