Name: _____

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

Bump! Bump! Scratch!

Adam opened his eyes and pulled the covers up to his chin. He stared around his room, searching the darkness for the thing that was making those scary sounds.

The closet door moved as something banged on it from the inside.

"Who's there?" Adam asked in a shaky voice.

The closet slowly began to open. Adam jumped out of bed and ran to the closet door, slamming it shut with his palms. He grabbed his desk chair and propped it against the door handle. Then he ran out of his room and down the hall. His brother's door was wide open, and Adam jumped onto David's bed.

"Adam?" David asked in a groggy voice. "What are you doing in here?"

Adam tugged on David's arm. "There's something in my closet!"

"You probably had a bad dream. Go back to bed."

Adam yanked the blankets off the bed. "It wasn't a dream. I was awake, and the closet door started opening by itself!"

David sighed. "Fine. But when we don't find anything, you have to promise to leave me alone for the rest of the night."

Adam nodded. David reached into his desk drawer and pulled out a flashlight. Then they headed to Adam's room. Adam stopped in the

doorway. He could hear something scratching his closet door.

"Do you hear that?" Adam asked.

David nodded. He walked over to Adam's bed and pulled the case off one of the pillows. He opened the pillowcase.

"You open the door very slowly, and I'll grab whatever it is."

Adam slid the chair to the side and pulled the closet door open a crack. Something banged against the door, trying to force it open. Adam took a deep breath and opened the door a few more inches. A small furry creature ran right into the pillowcase.

"I got it!" David said, closing the pillowcase and holding it in the air.

"What is it?" Adam moved closer as David peeked inside.

David put the pillowcase on the bed and an orange cat climbed out.

Adam scooped the cat up. "Apricot? How did you get trapped in my closet?"

David laughed. "The poor cat. If I was locked in your closet with your stinky shoes, I'd be banging on the door to get out, too!"

"Poor, Apricot," Adam said. "You were probably more scared than I was."

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

1. What happened right after David went into Adam's room?

   a. Adam jumped into David's bed.

   b. David grabbed a flashlight from his desk drawer.

   c. Adam awoke to strange sounds coming from his bedroom closet.

   d. David heard the noise coming from Adam's closet.

2. What did David plan to do with the pillowcase?

   a. keep the creature from coming out of the closet

   b. scare the creature in the closet

   c. catch the creature in the closet

   d. hit the creature in the closet

3. What was making the strange sounds in Adam's closet?

_____

_____

4. Write three adjectives that describe David. Tell why you chose each word.

_____ because _____

_____ because _____

_____ because _____

5. What type of story is this?

   a. tall tale   **b.** non-fiction

   c. mystery   **d.** fable

Name: _____

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

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

1. ____ ____ **o** ____ ____ **y**

clue: sleepy

1. _____

2. ____ **l** ____ ____

clue: past tense of slide

2. _____

3. ____ ____ ____ **m s**

clue: inner surfaces of the hands

3. _____

4. ___ **i** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **a** ___ ___

clue: soft bag for keeping a pillow clean

4. _____

5. ____ **e** ____ ____ **e d**

clue: went towards

5. _____

6. ____ ____ ____ **i** ____ **o** ____

clue: orange fruit

6. _____

7. ____ ____ **e** ____ **e d**

clue: took a quick look

7. _____

Name: _____

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

Characters: List the main characters and briefly describe them.

_____

_____

Setting: Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

_____

_____

Problem: Describe the main character's problem.

_____

_____

Solution: Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

_____

_____

Personal Opinion: Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

_____

_____

Name: _____

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

Retell "The Closet Creature" from the cat's point-of-view.

Then, on a separate sheet of white paper, draw a picture to accompany your story.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

1. What happened right after David went into Adam's room?

    a. Adam jumped into David's bed.

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2. What did David plan to do with the pillowcase?

    a. keep the creature from coming out of the closet

    b. scare the creature in the closet

    c. catch the creature in the closet

    d. hit the creature in the closet

3. What was making the strange sounds in Adam's closet?

    The boys' cat, Apricot, was trapped in the closet.

4. Write three adjectives that describe David. Tell why you chose each word.

    brave because **he was willing to catch the creature in the closet**

    annoyed because **he didn't like his brother waking him up**

    tired because **he spoke in a groggy voice**

    Answers will vary.

5. What type of story is this?

    a. tall tale   **b.** non-fiction

    c. mystery   **d.** fable

ANSWER KEY

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

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

1. __g__ __r__ o __g__ __g__ y

   clue: sleepy

   1. __groggy__

2. __s__ l __i__ __d__

   clue: past tense of slide

   2. __slid__

3. __p__ __a__ __l__ m s

   clue: inner surfaces of the hands

   3. __palms__

4. __p__ i __l__ __l__ __o__ __w__ __c__ a __s__ __e__

   clue: soft bag for keeping a pillow clean

   4. __pillowcase__

5. __h__ e __a__ __d__ e d

   clue: went towards

   5. __headed__

6. __a__ __p__ __r__ i __c__ o __t__

   clue: orange fruit

   6. __apricot__

7. __p__ __e__ e __k__ e d

   clue: took a quick look

   7. __peeked__

ANSWER KEY

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

Characters: List the main characters and briefly describe them.

Adam - brother of David; scared of sounds in the night

David - brother of Adam; sleepy in this story; Brave

Setting: Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

The story takes place at night, in David and Adam's bedrooms.

Problem: Describe the main character's problem.

Adam hears sounds coming from his closet. He sees the closet door opening

and is afraid.

Solution: Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

David came into the room with a flashlight, he took Adam's pillowcase and

used it to catch the creature. It turned out to be the family cat.

Personal Opinion: Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

Answers will vary.