



LITERACY WORKSHEET

Reading Comprehension

Directions:

Read and answer the questions.

Name: _____

A STINKY MEETING

It happened again. The noise coming from outside was very quiet, but Max our dog heard it. He jumped off the bed and ran out the door. Max did not like cats coming into his yard. He just had to run outside to tell the cat to leave. He barked loud enough for everyone to hear. “Oh no,” I groaned. “The neighbours will be upset by all this barking!”

Suddenly, Max was silent. I sat up in bed and listened. When I didn’t hear him barking, I knew something was wrong. What could have caused Max to stop barking?

I went into the kitchen and opened the door. A pair of beady black eyes were staring me in the face. But those were not Max’s eyes. They were not cat eyes either! That’s when the smell bit me. It was the most awful smell I had ever smelled in my life!

I knew what it was even before I saw the white stripe. It was a skunk, and it had sprayed Max! I slammed the door, but it was too late. The smell crept through the whole house. Every rug, sofa, and pillow smelled like skunk.

But where was Max? I yelled out his name. A very unhappy brown and white face peered through the dark. Max was drooling and grunting. He rubbed his face with his paws. He was trying to wipe the smell off his nose, eyes, and ears. I brought him into the house.

Yuck! The smell coming from his fur was just awful! I wondered how to get rid of the smell so we could breathe again. I looked on the Internet and found a solution. It did not sound fun for Max or for me, but I knew I had to give it a try.

I put Max in the tub and gave him a bath in tomato juice. His fur turned red. Now he smelled like tomatoes – and skunk. I went back to the Internet and did some more research. I learned that the tomato juice solution was just a myth!

The best remedy for getting out skunk smell was a mixture with baking soda. The mixture fizzed and bubbled. I rubbed it all over his fur. Then I washed it off with dish soap. It worked! But it only got rid of the smell on his body. It did nothing for his breath! The skunk had sprayed max right in the mouth. Just then, he turned his head in my direction and let out a burp. I almost fainted.

I had to keep trying. I brushed his teeth, but that didn’t help much. I gave him one of his dog breath mints. That didn’t work either. Max and I were exhausted. We





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had been up all night trying to get rid of the skunk smell. It was time for us both to rest.

Max was thankful that I tried to get him clean. He wagged his tail and made me smile. I was just glad Max was okay.

A STINKY MEETING

Comprehension Questions:

1. What do you know about skunks?

2. Have you ever seen a skunk? Have you or anyone you know been sprayed by a skunk?

3. Skunks spray when they feel threatened. What are some other things animals do to keep themselves safe when they feel threatened?

4. What causes Max to run outside in the middle of the night? How does his owner know something is wrong?

5. How does the owner know what happened to Max before seeing the skunk?





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6. Why does the owner bring Max into the house? Do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

7. What could the owner do in the future to keep Max safe from skunks?

8. Why does the owner stop trying to get rid of the smell? Do you think this is a good decision? Why or why not?

9. What would you do if you were Max's owner and he was sprayed by a skunk? Would you respond differently from the owner in the story? Why or why not?

10. How can you tell that Max has a good owner?





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