

Back to School Reading Comprehension: The First Day - Answer Key

3rd Grade - short story comprehension | 15 minutes

Read the passage:

Diego was nervous on the first day of third grade. He did not know his new teacher, and his best friend was in a different class. When he walked in, Mr. Park handed him a name tag and a small puzzle piece. 'Find the classmates whose pieces fit yours,' Mr. Park said. Diego searched around the room until three other students' pieces clicked into his. Together, their four pieces made a picture of a rocket. Those three classmates became Diego's first new friends, and they sat together at lunch. By the end of the day, Diego was already hoping tomorrow would come quickly.

Read the story. Then answer each question in a complete sentence using details from the story.

1. Why was Diego nervous on the first day?

Answer: He did not know his new teacher, and his best friend was in a different class.

2. What did Mr. Park hand each student?

Answer: A name tag and a small puzzle piece.

3. What were the students asked to do with their puzzle pieces?

Answer: Find the classmates whose pieces fit theirs.

4. What picture did Diego's group of pieces make?

Answer: A rocket.

5. What is the main idea of the story?

Answer: A puzzle activity helped Diego make new friends and feel better about a nervous first day. (Sample answer.)

Challenge

6. Why do you think Mr. Park used the puzzle activity? Use the story to explain.

Answer: Answers will vary; it got students moving and talking so they would meet each other and make friends, which is exactly what happened for Diego.