

Name: _____ Class: _____

The Rescue of the Tin Woodman

From The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

By L. Frank Baum
1900

Lyman Frank Baum (1856-1919), also known as L. Frank Baum, was an American author, best known for his children's books. Baum is the author of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz and its sequels. He wrote 14 novels in the Oz series. In this excerpt from The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, Dorothy, Toto, and the Scarecrow meet the Tin Woodman. As you read, take notes on how Dorothy reacts to meeting the Tin Woodman and why she reacts this way.

[1] When Dorothy awoke the sun was shining through the trees and Toto had long been out chasing birds around him and squirrels. She sat up and looked around her. Scarecrow, still standing patiently in his corner, waiting for her.

"We must go and search for water," she said to him.

"Why do you want water?" he asked.

"To wash my face clean after the dust of the road, and to drink, so the dry bread will not stick in my throat."

[5] "It must be inconvenient¹ to be made of flesh,"² said the Scarecrow thoughtfully, "for you must sleep, and eat and drink. However, you have brains, and it is worth a lot of bother to be able to think properly."

They left the cottage and walked through the trees until they found a little spring of clear water, where Dorothy drank and bathed and ate her breakfast. She saw there was not much bread left in the basket, and the girl was thankful the Scarecrow did not have to eat anything, for there was scarcely³ enough for herself and Toto for the day.



"Tin Man" by Brain Teutsch is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

1. **Inconvenient** (*adjective*): causing trouble or annoyance
2. the skin, muscles and fat of a human body
3. barely; hardly

When she had finished her meal, and was about to go back to the road of yellow brick, she was startled⁴ to hear a deep groan near by.

"What was that?" she asked timidly.⁵

"I cannot imagine," replied the Scarecrow; "but we can go and see."

- [10] Just then another groan reached their ears, and the sound seemed to come from behind them. They turned and walked through the forest a few steps, when Dorothy discovered something shining in a ray of sunshine that fell between the trees. She ran to the place and then stopped short, with a little cry of surprise.

One of the big trees had been partly chopped through, and standing beside it, with an uplifted axe in his hands, was a man made entirely of tin.⁶ His head and arms and legs were jointed upon his body, but he stood perfectly motionless, as if he could not stir at all.

Dorothy looked at him in amazement, and so did the Scarecrow, while Toto barked sharply and made a snap at the tin legs, which hurt his teeth.

"Did you groan?" asked Dorothy.

"Yes," answered the tin man, "I did. I've been groaning for more than a year, and no one has ever heard me before or come to help me."

- [15] "What can I do for you?" she inquired softly, for she was moved by the sad voice in which the man spoke.

"Get an oil-can and oil my joints," he answered. "They are rusted so badly that I cannot move them at all; if I am well oiled I shall soon be all right again. You will find an oil-can on a shelf in my cottage."

Dorothy at once ran back to the cottage and found the oil-can, and then she returned and asked anxiously,⁷ "Where are your joints?"

"Oil my neck, first," replied the Tin Woodman. So she oiled it, and as it was quite badly rusted the Scarecrow took hold of the tin head and moved it gently from side to side until it worked freely, and then the man could turn it himself.

"Now oil the joints in my arms," he said. And Dorothy oiled them and the Scarecrow bent them carefully until they were quite free from rust and as good as new.

- [20] The Tin Woodman gave a sigh of satisfaction and lowered his axe, which he leaned against the tree.

4. **Startled (adjective):** scared

5. **Timid (adjective):** showing a lack of courage or confidence

6. a type of metal

7. **Anxious (adjective):** afraid or nervous, especially for what may happen

"This is a great comfort," he said. "I have been holding that axe in the air ever since I rusted, and I'm glad to be able to put it down at last. Now, if you will oil the joints of my legs, I shall be all right once more."

So they oiled his legs until he could move them freely; and he thanked them again and again for his release, for he seemed a very polite creature, and very grateful.

"The Rescue of the Tin Woodman" from The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum (1900) is in the public domain.

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: Read this sentence from paragraph 15 of the passage. "What can I do for you?" she inquired softly, for she was moved by the sad voice in which the man spoke." What is the meaning of the word "inquired" in the sentence?
 - A. accepted
 - B. admitted
 - C. argued
 - D. asked

2. PART B: Which detail from the passage best provides clues for the meaning of the word "inquired"?
 - A. "Toto barked sharply and made a snap at the tin legs" (Paragraph 12)
 - B. "no one has ever heard me before or come to help me." (Paragraph 14)
 - C. "if I am well oiled I shall soon be all right again." (Paragraph 16)
 - D. "You will find an oil-can on a shelf in my cottage." (Paragraph 16)

3. PART A: Why does Scarecrow question Dorothy when she says in paragraph 2 that they "must go and search for water"?
 - A. He is happy that she wants to go into the woods to get food.
 - B. He is afraid to go into the woods toward the groaning noise.
 - C. He does not understand why she needs water.
 - D. He does not want to wait for her anymore.

4. PART B: Which paragraph in the passage best supports the answer to Part A?
 - A. Paragraph 4
 - B. Paragraph 5
 - C. Paragraph 6
 - D. Paragraph 7

5. PART A: Read the sentence from paragraph 22 of the passage. "So they oiled his legs until he could move them freely; and he thanked them again and again for his release, for he seemed a very polite creature, and very grateful." Which word means nearly the same as "release" as it is used in the sentence?
 - A. inquiry
 - B. pleasure
 - C. freedom
 - D. movement

6. PART B: Which detail from the passage gives the best clue to the meaning of “release”?
- A. “What can I do for you?’ she inquired softly, for she was moved by the sad voice in which the man spoke.” (Paragraph 15)
 - B. “Dorothy at once ran back to the cottage and found the oil-can, and then she returned and asked anxiously, ‘Where are your joints?’” (Paragraph 17)
 - C. “Oil my neck, first,’ replied the Tin Woodman.” (Paragraph 18)
 - D. “I have been holding that axe in the air ever since I rusted, and I’m glad to be able to put it down at last.” (Paragraph 21)
7. PART A: Which of these is the best summary of “The Rescue of the Tin Woodman”?
- A. Two friends and a dog go on a journey together and are surprised when they find a strange sound coming from the woods. They go into the woods to explore.
 - B. Some friends almost run out of food and must search the woods for more. They come across a man who became stuck and could not move. He is thankful they rescue him.
 - C. Dorothy becomes fearful when she almost runs out of food and hears strange sounds coming from the woods. She is thankful that the Scarecrow does not have to eat and is surprised by what they find in the woods. Dorothy is anxious to help the man.
 - D. While searching for water near the woods, Dorothy, Scarecrow, and Toto hear a strange groaning sound. They find a man made from tin who is unable to move because his joints have rusted. They rescue the tin man by oiling his joints and setting him free.
8. PART B: Which paragraph in the passage contains information that is important to include in a summary?
- A. Paragraph 3
 - B. Paragraph 12
 - C. Paragraph 13
 - D. Paragraph 22

Name: _____ Class: _____

The Elephant and the Crocodile

By H. Berkeley Score

In this fable, a Crocodile and an Elephant argue about which is the better animal. A Lion proposes a challenge to help them answer this question. As you read, take notes on the Crocodile and the Elephant's abilities.

[1] An Elephant and a Crocodile were once standing beside a river. They were disputing as to which was the better animal.

"Look at my strength," said the Elephant. "I can tear up a tree, roots and all, with my trunk."

"Ah! But quantity is not quality, and your skin is not nearly so tough as mine," replied the Crocodile, "for neither spear, arrow, nor sword can pierce it."

Just as they were coming to blows,¹ a Lion happened to pass.

[5] "Heyday,² sirs!" said His Majesty, going up to them, "let me know the cause of your quarrel."³

"Will you kindly tell us which is the better animal?" cried both at once.

"Certainly," said the Lion. "Do you see that soldier's steel helmet on yonder wall?" pointing at the same time across the river.

"Yes!" replied the beasts.

"Well, then," continued the Lion, "go and fetch it, and bring it to me, and I shall be able then to decide between you."

[10] Upon hearing this, off they started. The Crocodile, being used to the water, reached the opposite bank of the river first, and was not long in standing beside the wall.

Here he waited till the Elephant came up. The latter, seeing at a glance how matters stood, extended his long trunk, and reached the helmet quite easily.



"Bronze helmet of the Corinthian type. Late 6th c. BC. Cycladic Art Museum, Athens, Greece" by Tilemahos Efthimiadis is licensed under CC BY 2.0

1. to start fighting after a disagreement
 2. an old term that expresses joy or surprise
 3. **Quarrel** (*noun*): an angry argument

They then made their way together back again across the river. The Elephant, anxious to keep up with the Crocodile in the water, forgot that he was carrying the helmet on his back, and a sudden lurch⁴ caused the prize to slip off and sink to the bottom. The Crocodile noticed the accident, so down he dived, and brought it up in his capacious⁵ mouth. They then returned, and the Crocodile laid the helmet at the Lion's feet. His Majesty took up the helmet, and addressing the Elephant, said:

"You, on account of your size and trunk, were able to reach the prize on the wall but, having lost it, you were unable to recover it. And you," said the Lion, turning to the Crocodile, "although unable to reach the helmet, were able to dive for it and save it. You are both wise and clever in your respective⁶ ways. Neither is better than the other."

"The Elephant and the Crocodile" by H. Berkeley Score is in the public domain.

4. **Lurch (verb):** to make a sudden and uncontrolled movement
5. having a lot of space; roomy
6. belonging or relating separately to each person

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: Which sentence from the story helps the reader understand the meaning of “disputing” as it is used in paragraph 1?
 - A. “Heyday, sirs!’ said His Majesty, going up to them, ‘let me know the cause of your quarrel.” (Paragraph 5)
 - B. “Upon hearing this, off they started.” (Paragraph 10)
 - C. “The latter, seeing at a glance how matters stood, extended his long trunk, and reached the helmet quite easily.” (Paragraph 11)
 - D. “‘And you,’ said the Lion, turning to the Crocodile, ‘although unable to reach the helmet, were able to dive for it and save it.’” (Paragraph 13)

2. PART B: Which word has the opposite meaning of “disputing”?
 - A. confessing
 - B. discussing
 - C. questioning
 - D. agreeing

3. PART A: How does the Lion react to the question the Elephant and the Crocodile ask in paragraph 6?
 - A. He disappoints them by refusing to answer.
 - B. He causes conflict by proposing a silly contest.
 - C. He shows interest in helping them solve their problem.
 - D. He addresses them as if they are less important than he is.

4. PART B: Which detail from the story provides evidence for the answer to Part A?
 - A. “Do you see that soldier’s steel helmet on yonder wall?” (Paragraph 7)
 - B. “go and fetch it, and bring it to me, and I shall be able then to decide between you.” (Paragraph 9)
 - C. “His Majesty took up the helmet” (Paragraph 12)
 - D. “‘You, on account of your size and trunk, were able to reach the prize on the wall but, having lost it, you were unable to recover it.’” (Paragraph 13)

5. PART A: Which character trait best describes the Lion?
 - A. wise
 - B. brave
 - C. kind
 - D. humorous

6. PART B: Which quotation from the story supports the answer to Part A?
- A. "Just as they were coming to blows, a Lion happened to pass." (Paragraph 4)
 - B. "Do you see that soldier's steel helmet on yonder wall?" (Paragraph 7)
 - C. "Well, then," continued the Lion, "go and fetch it, and bring it to me, and I shall be able to decide between you." (Paragraph 9)
 - D. "Neither is better than the other." (Paragraph 13)
7. PART A: Which sentence best states a theme in the story?
- A. We all have different strengths.
 - B. We should try to be patient with others.
 - C. We all have the power to help others.
 - D. We should always put forth our best efforts.
8. PART B: Which detail from the story best shows this theme?
- A. "Ah! but quantity is not quality, and your skin is not nearly so tough as mine" (Paragraph 3)
 - B. "The Crocodile, being used to the water, reached the opposite bank of the river first" (Paragraph 10)
 - C. "a sudden lurch caused the prize to slip off and sink to the bottom." (Paragraph 12)
 - D. "You are both wise and clever in your respective ways." (Paragraph 13)

Why the U.S. census tries to count everyone

By Washington Post, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.31.20

Word Count **697**

Level **720L**

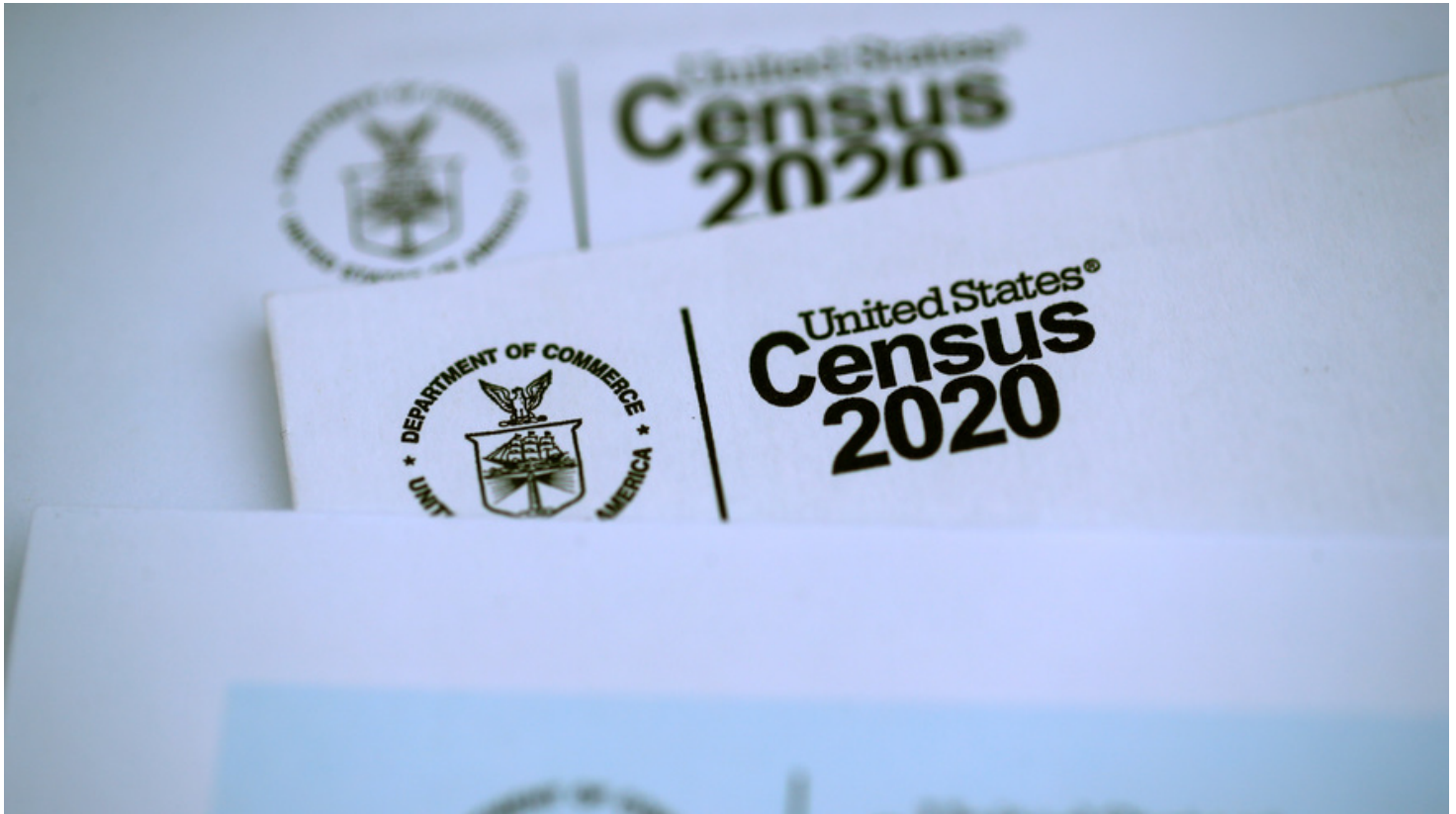


Image 1. The U.S. Census logo on paper gotten in the mail with an invitation to fill out census information online on March 19, 2020, in San Anselmo, California. Photo Illustration: Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

America, it is time to stand up and be counted.

Around March 23, a letter should have arrived where you live. The letter asks the adult in charge to complete a form called the 2020 Census. It is pronounced SEN-suss. The census is a count that is done every 10 years of everyone living in the United States. It asks who lives in a home and how they are related. It also asks their age, race and other information.

The Information Collected By The Census Is Important

This is a huge job. It is important that everyone be counted. That is because the national government uses that information to see how many seats in Congress each state should have. If a state loses population, it might lose a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. If its population is growing, it might gain a seat.

The House and the Senate are the country's two law-making bodies. Each state only gets two senators regardless of how big or small it is. However, states are given seats in the House of

Representatives based on how many people live in each state.

Census numbers also help decide how to divide up money from the government. This money is shared each year. It helps states and communities build roads, schools, hospitals and fire departments. More than 100 government programs also depend on the census. The programs use the census to send money to where the need is greatest.

Among the programs are Head Start and food assistance for poor people. Head Start is a program for children from birth to 5 years old. It focuses on getting kids ready for school through early learning and other help.

George Washington Took The First Census

The 2020 census marks the 24th national count, which the U.S. Constitution requires to be held every 10 years. The first census was in 1790. It was soon after George Washington became president. About 650 men set out on foot or horseback to count everyone living in their areas.



Washington and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson both thought the final number was low. That first census counted nearly 3.9 million people. Fighting has come with just about every census since then.

After all, it is not easy getting a snapshot of the entire country for a single day. Census Day is April 1. The U.S. population grows by one person every 23 seconds. The growth is from births and people coming from other countries.

Not Everyone Was Counted In 2010

Some people are more difficult to count. People living far from cities, the homeless and children who split their time between two homes present challenges to getting a good count. The U.S. Census Bureau says that about 1 million kids younger than age 5 were not counted in 2010. That was the highest number for any age group.

Leaders have tried to simplify the 2020 count. For the first time, responses can be made online. They can also be done by phone and mail. To help people who speak little or no English, there are guides in 60 languages. Braille is offered for people who are blind.

Each head of a home, even someone living alone, must fill out a census form. They face a fine if they don't. There are no questions about whether someone is an American citizen. This has helped with the worries of some people. They said asking about citizenship would reduce the response from immigrants. Immigrants are people who have come from another country.

The Census Bureau has to protect people's information. It is the law. No one will be identified by name as the numbers in the census are studied.

However, for anyone tempted not to respond, keep this in mind. The people who are census takers are like a dog looking for that tasty bone he buried. They don't give up easily. Ignore their letter, and more will follow. They really want everyone to be counted.

Quiz

1 Why did George Washington and Thomas Jefferson feel disappointed about the first census?

- (A) because the results of the census affected their elections
- (B) because the count was done using men on foot or horseback
- (C) because they wanted the census to be held every 10 years
- (D) because they thought that the final count was too low

2 What happened as a result of children splitting their time between two homes?

- (A) The census counted most children younger than age 5 twice.
- (B) The census missed counting 1 million children younger than age 5.
- (C) The census now has guides in 60 different languages.
- (D) The census skipped many parents in the 2010 census.

3 According to the article, it is very important for everyone to be counted in the census.

How does the author support this statement?

- (A) by explaining how the census affects government and money for programs
- (B) by describing what happened when people skipped the last census
- (C) by explaining that the population grows by one person every 23 seconds
- (D) by describing the ways people can fill out the census by phone or mail

4 Read the following selection from the section "Not Everyone Was Counted In 2010."

Each head of a home, even someone living alone, must fill out a census form. They face a fine if they don't. There are no questions about whether someone is an American citizen. This has helped with the worries of some people.

How does this selection support the author's MAIN idea?

- (A) It shows that many people argue over the questions on the census.
- (B) It gives reasons why people should make sure to complete the census.
- (C) It explains how the census is different for people who are living alone.
- (D) It argues that the fine for skipping the census costs too much for people.

Alone no more: People are turning to dogs, cats and chickens to cope with self-isolation

By Washington Post, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.30.20

Word Count **801**

Level **810L**



Since local governments have asked people to stay inside to reduce the spread of coronavirus, animal shelters across the country have seen more pet adoptions than usual. Photo: Marek Szturc/Unsplash

Lucky Dog Animal Rescue holds adoption events at the PetSmart in Gaithersburg, Maryland. During a typical event, the group would find homes for around 15 dogs.

As news of the coronavirus became more urgent the week of March 16, the waiting list jumped to 40 future adopters.

Coronavirus is a flu-like illness. It began in China and has been spreading across the globe since December 2019. Health officials have been encouraging social distancing. This means staying home and staying away from other people to help slow the spread of the virus.

Mirah Horowitz, who runs the rescue, said they had 30 adoptions in just three hours.

Forget toilet paper, milk and hand sanitizer. People are rushing to stock up on pets.

Pets Provide Companionship To People In Isolation

The coronavirus can make some people very sick. It is spreading quickly across the United States. Millions of people must now work from home and schools are closed to slow the spread. The promise of companionship while in isolation is causing some people to take in animals. Many say they finally have the time to properly train and care for a new pet.

On March 19, 40 million people in California were ordered to stay home. They could only leave for essential jobs or trips. Governor Gavin Newsom noted an important exception.

"You can still walk your dog," he said.

That was part of the reason Kathy Shield, a university student, recently adopted a dog. She named him Atom.

The timing was good for Shield, as she is working from home and has time to care for Atom. She is also excited to have someone to talk to, even if he does not talk back. Taking care of him will also keep her on a schedule.

"There's no question that animals provide incredible comfort and companionship," said Matt Bershader. He runs the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, a national animal rescue. It is called the ASPCA for short. He encouraged people to continue to adopt or temporarily foster.

Animals Need To Be Cared For During Outbreak

The ASPCA has seen an increase in people interested in fostering and adopting animals in recent weeks. Animal rescues in Arizona, California and New York have seen similar increases in adoptions and fostering.

Shelters need the help. Some animal rescues in big cities are closing to help prevent the spread of coronavirus between people. The animals, though, still need to be cared for. Many of the rescues are hoping to find the animals foster homes.

On March 13, an animal rescue in New York City asked for additional foster homes. Katy Hansen works at the rescue. She thought they would get 50 applications.

"We got 2,000 people who filled out the application," Hansen said. She said most of the applications were from young adults who have no kids and are working from home or suddenly do not have a job.

Fostering also works for those who can only help out right now.

Maya Dangerfield is usually too busy for a pet. She and her husband decided to foster a dog while working from home in New York. They picked up a poodle-mix named JWoww on March 19.

"It's nice to have a little doggy. Just someone to hang out with," said Dangerfield.

Some Adoptions About More Than Just Companionship

Pets can also entertain younger family members. Kenneth Lynch and Lauren Wakefield bought a blue and silver betta fish named Freddy. Their young children will help take care of the fish while home from school. They hope that it will help teach them about responsibility. Lynch said the fish will help their son occupy some of his time in a more healthy way while he's home from school.

Some people are getting animals for more practical reasons.

"We're kind of stuck at home, grocery stores are empty, and now we have these chickens that are laying eggs for us," said Kelly Bordas. She is a new chicken owner in Oviedo, Florida.

The chickens, named Daisy Duck and Mabel, are also a source of entertainment. Bordas' young daughter helps take care of them.

"She loves them, she always goes out there and she wants to pet them. She wants them to be her best friends," said Bordas.

For Julianna Caplan, the coronavirus scare became the perfect time to finally get a dog for her teen daughters. The family recently adopted a dog.

They named the dog Pepper Corona after her coloring and the moment in history.

"It feels good to adopt, and the kids are happy. It feels like the right thing to do now," Caplan said.

"I look at this dog and say to her, 'I don't know what your past has been, but your future is about to be awesome.'"

Quiz

1 Read the section "Animals Need To Be Cared For During Outbreak."

Select the paragraph from the section that shows how animal shelters have been hurt by the coronavirus.

- (A) The ASPCA has seen an increase in people interested in fostering and adopting animals in recent weeks. Animal rescues in Arizona, California and New York have seen similar increases in adoptions and fostering.
- (B) Shelters need the help. Some animal rescues in big cities are closing to help prevent the spread of coronavirus between people. The animals, though, still need to be cared for. Many of the rescues are hoping to find the animals foster homes.
- (C) "We got 2,000 people who filled out the application," Hansen said. She said most of the applications were from young adults who have no kids and are working from home or suddenly do not have a job.
- (D) Maya Dangerfield is usually too busy for a pet. She and her husband decided to foster a dog while working from home in New York. They picked up a poodle-mix named JWoww on March 19.

2 Read the section "Some Adoptions About More Than Just Companionship."

Which detail from this section supports the conclusion that animals can provide more than emotional support for people?

- (A) "We're kind of stuck at home, grocery stores are empty, and now we have these chickens that are laying eggs for us," said Kelly Bordas.
- (B) "She loves them, she always goes out there and she wants to pet them. She wants them to be her best friends," said Borda
- (C) For Julianna Caplan, the coronavirus scare became the perfect time to finally get a dog for her teen daughters.
- (D) "It feels good to adopt, and the kids are happy. It feels like the right thing to do now," Caplan said.

3 According to the section "Pets Provide Companionship To People In Isolation," HOW do dogs help people during the coronavirus outbreak?

- (A) They help them to keep a normal schedule.
- (B) They gives them a reason to stay at home.
- (C) They allows students to take pets to school.
- (D) They keep them safe during a dangerous time.

4 What effect did the coronavirus have on people and their pets?

- (A) It made it more difficult for people to adopt pets.
- (B) It showed people how pets can keep them safe.
- (C) It gave many people more time to spend with pets.
- (D) It caused people to be worried about their pets.

Neighbors create "bear hunts" for kids amid coronavirus

By The Advocate, adapted by Newsela staff on 03.30.20

Word Count **644**

Level **750L**



Image 1. A bear sits on a bench outside of a home in Oaklawn Subdivision on March 23, 2020, in Lafayette, Louisiana. Residents of Oaklawn Subdivision and Saint Streets area are putting teddy bears in their windows so parents can take kids on bear hunts and take photos of some of the teddy bears. Photo: Brad Kemp/The Advocate

During the coronavirus outbreak, many children are out of school. They have been forced to stick close to home.

Coronavirus is a flu-like illness. It began in China and has been spreading across the globe since December 2019. Health officials have been encouraging social distancing. This means staying home and staying away from other people to help slow the spread of the virus. Many schools have shut down. Many companies are telling employees to work from home. Major sporting and entertainment events have also been canceled or postponed.

Still, many kids are finding ways to stay entertained.

In one neighborhood of Lafayette, Louisiana, during the week of March 23, kids are on a hunt. Some carry maps and binoculars. Their goal? To find teddy bears.

Neighbors are placing teddy bears in street-facing windows. Children can then seek them out on walks and bicycle rides through their neighborhood. Some areas in London, England, have joined in the fun, too.

Spreading The Word About Teddy Bears

The idea may be based on a book. It's called "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury.

In Lafayette, in early March, parents and residents got together on a neighborhood page on social media site Facebook. They began to spread the word. Soon teddy bears started appearing in windows.

Myrtle Place resident Jaci Russo has three bears in her windows. She first observed it in mid-March.

"People were putting bears in windows, flower beds, along fence lines," she said. Then they were "posting their addresses [on the neighborhood Facebook page]," Russo added. That way "people can map a route and parents can take their kids walking on a bear hunt."

And the children are serious about it, Russo said. Many are taking paper and pens and mapping routes.



Children Write Messages With Sidewalk Chalk

"I love it," Russo said. "It's a great way for neighbors to help out."

In the late morning, some parents in her neighborhood walk their children to school to pick up lunch. They're also hunting for teddy bears at that time, Russo said. In the afternoons, children can be seen making chalk drawings of teddy bears. Some write inspiring phrases on driveways and sidewalks, she added. Some parents are even hanging lines in their front yards. They want to display their children's drawings of bears.

One Oaklawn resident posted on March 23 how proud she is to live in the neighborhood. Her daughter spotted 50 teddy bears on their walk that day.

If you don't live in the area you can start something similar in your neighborhood.

Teddy bears aren't the only thing adding cheer to lives in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana.

Rainbows are showing up everywhere in the Sawgrass Park neighborhood in south Lafayette Parish. They're arriving even when there hasn't been a rain shower.

Rainbows Are Also Popping Up

Mary LeBlanc has two young children and another on the way. She learned about the rainbows from her sister-in-law, who lives in New Orleans. LeBlanc posted it on the neighborhood Facebook page. Word spread and children took out their crayons and markers to create beautiful rainbows. They put the colorful drawings in street-facing windows for a giant neighborhood I Spy game.

Children also are spreading rainbows outside. They've been drawing them in chalk on sidewalks and driveways.

Some of the neighbors are posting their addresses on the Facebook page, inviting kids to stop by their street. Parents like LeBlanc and her husband are working from home during the coronavirus spread. They are searching out the rainbows while taking family walks and bike rides.

"It's cheerful," LeBlanc said. "It's something to look forward to."

And who doesn't need a little cheer during these times?

Quiz

1 Read the section "Children Write Messages With Sidewalk Chalk."

Which sentence explains that children want to help others?

- (A) In the afternoons, children can be seen making chalk drawings of teddy bears.
- (B) Some write inspiring phrases on driveways and sidewalks, she added.
- (C) They want to display their children's drawings of bears.
- (D) Her daughter spotted 50 teddy bears on their walk that day.

2 Read the paragraph below from the section "Rainbows Are Also Popping Up."

Mary LeBlanc has two young children and another on the way. She learned about the rainbows from her sister-in-law, who lives in New Orleans. LeBlanc posted it on the neighborhood Facebook page. Word spread and children took out their crayons and markers to create beautiful rainbows. They put the colorful drawings in street-facing windows for a giant neighborhood I Spy game.

What conclusion can the reader make based on this paragraph?

- (A) Neighborhood games are organized through social media.
- (B) New Orleans has more rainbows than Lafayette Parish.
- (C) People are finding ways to make friends using Facebook.
- (D) The "I Spy" game replaced the teddy bear game in Lafayette.

3 Why does an Oaklawn resident feel proud to live in her neighborhood?

- (A) She was able to put teddy bears in her daughter's window.
- (B) Her neighbors used her idea to start the teddy bear game.
- (C) Children brought teddy bears to her house for her daughter.
- (D) Everyone came together to help neighborhood children.

4 How did Lafayette become involved with the teddy bear game?

- (A) Children in the neighborhood learned about it from a book.
- (B) Parents found maps showing where all of the teddy bears were located.
- (C) People in the neighborhood shared the game on a Facebook page.
- (D) Schools taught the game to children before they had to shut down.