

My New Brother

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3rd Grade Fiction

My mother was having a baby, and we were very glad. We did not know when the baby would come, but we knew it was soon. My mother had a suitcase she had packed that she kept next to the door. She had put some things in it she would need when she went to the hospital.

Then one night my mother woke us up and she said, “It is time!” We were very excited. She said that my aunt would take care of us while she was at the hospital. I wanted to go, too, but she said I would come later. “Go back to sleep,” she said. “I will see you soon with the new baby.”

The next morning, my aunt said, “Now you have a new brother.” I was glad. I wanted to see him, but my aunt said, “You can’t come to the hospital. You are too young.” Still, I wanted to see the baby, and I missed my mother.

My mother called me on the telephone. She stayed in the hospital a few days, and I had missed her even more. When I talked with her on the phone I felt better. She said she was feeling good and would be home soon. She said the nurses had taken good care of her.

The next day, I went to the hospital. We were taking my mother home, and my aunt drove us there. When we got there, my mother was in a wheelchair. I thought there was something wrong.

“Are you sick?” I asked.

The nurse said, “No, she is just being careful. When patients leave the hospital they leave in a wheelchair. That keeps them safe.”

My mother thanked the nurse. She said she and the baby would be back next week to see the doctor. She would bring us, too. She said this is a very special time for our family. We will all help take care of each other. We would take good care of my brother. We would return to the hospital to check with the doctor to make sure he was healthy.

Infer Predictions – Fiction

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools, 2009.

Choose the best answer for each question

1. How do you think the mother feels when she has to go to the hospital?

- a. sad
- b. excited
- c. angry
- d. lonely

3. What do you think the mother does first when she gets home?

- a. She talks on the phone.
- b. She puts the baby in a bed.
- c. She watches television.
- d. She cooks dinner.

2. What do you think happens when the mother gets to the hospital?

- a. She finds a nurse.
- b. She sleeps.
- c. She eats dinner.
- d. She watches television.

4. What do you think the family does the next day?

- a. Takes care of the baby.
- b. Visits the aunt.
- c. Goes shopping.
- d. Goes back to the hospital.

5. *Write your own answer to this question. How do you think the mother feels when she gets home?*

TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

Answers: *You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.*

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	b	a	b	a

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.

Happy.