



MELINDA'S DIARY

EPISODE 4: 'Choices! Choices! Choices!'

Comprehension & literacy activities

A quick comprehension quiz

1. Where did Melinda's Mum ask Melinda to keep her watch when she wasn't wearing it?
2. On Tuesday, why was Melinda having trouble concentrating properly at school?
3. What were the three questions that Eggle asked Melinda at breakfast on Tuesday?
4. What game did Eggle suggest he and Melinda play on Wednesday evening?
5. On Wednesday, what question did Mum ask Melinda that she was dreading?
6. Why was Melinda feeling sooo... bad?
7. What event saved Melinda from trouble and caused her Mum to forget all about the watch?
8. After three days of 'agony' what did Melinda decide to do?
9. Where was Melinda's watch?
10. What lecture did Mum give Eggle?

Word use

Following is a list of words that appear in this issue of Melinda's Diary that could be useful for adding to spelling lists, for dictionary meanings and for placing in alphabetical order. Other uses for the words could include literacy activities such as adding 's', 'ing', 'ed', 'ly', identifying compound words and synonym/antonym exercises, etc.

inevitable	mystery	everywhere	brewing
misplaced	concentrate	frowned	desperately
fortunately	cringed	dreading	continued
thankfully	drawer	courage	muster
oversized	strangely	bedside	lectured
importance	chosen	choosing	consequences
removed	bear	agony	muttering



Lower
Primary



Primary



Middle
Years



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For discussion

1. What do you think about Melinda's opening comment, "This is the worst day of my whole life?" Do you think that's a bit 'over the top'? Why or why not? Everything turned out okay in the end. What would you have done on Monday if you were in Melinda's situation and why?
2. Why do you think Eggle interacted with Melinda the way he did when he knew very well that he had taken the watch? Look at the questions he asked Melinda about her watch and when? What was he thinking at each point and why? If you could choose one word to describe Eggle's behaviour, what would it be?
3. It took three days for Melinda to own-up that she couldn't find her watch. Why do you think Mum responded the way she did once Melinda owned-up. Do you think Mum knew where the watch was beforehand? If so, why didn't she say anything to Melinda? What lessons do you think Mum was trying to teach both Eggle and Melinda? Do you think Mum handled the situation well? Why or why not? How might you have handled the situation and why?

Quick comprehension quiz solutions

1. Mum asked Melinda to keep her watch safely in her top drawer when she wasn't wearing it.
2. Melinda was having trouble concentrating at school because she still couldn't find her watch.
3. The three questions that Eggle asked Melinda at breakfast on Tuesday were: "Mel, what's the time?", "Mel, is it time for school yet?", and "Mel, what time do you get home from school?".
4. Eggle suggested that he and Melinda play, 'What's the time, Mr Wolf?'
5. On Wednesday, the question asked by Mum that Melinda was dreading was, "Melinda, why aren't you wearing your watch?"
6. Melinda was feeling sooo... bad because she didn't tell her Mum the truth about her watch not being in her top drawer and she didn't know where it was.
7. Melinda thought she was saved from trouble because her Gran and Pa arrived at the house.
8. After three days of 'agony' Melinda mustered the courage to tell her Mum that she couldn't find her watch.
9. Eggle's bear was wearing Melinda's watch.
10. Eggle was lectured about the importance of not taking things that weren't his.



Lower
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