

Swinging High

Oscar was sad. No one at the playground wanted to go on the seesaw. They were all busy kicking around a ball.

“Why don’t you play ball with them?” asked his dad.

Oscar didn’t want to play ball. He wanted to go on the seesaw. He sat sadly on one end. The other end was high in the air.

Oscar’s dad tried to go on the seesaw with him. But he was too heavy. Oscar’s side of the seesaw shot into the air. His dad’s side thudded to the ground.

“This is not going to work,” said Oscar.

Oscar wandered around the playground. He saw another kid standing on the side of the field. “Why aren’t you playing ball with them?” he asked.

“I don’t want to play ball,” said the kid.

“Do you want to go on the seesaw with me?” asked Oscar.

“No thanks,” said the kid. “I don’t want to go on the seesaw.”

Oscar thought. The other kid looked as sad as he felt. “What’s your name?” Oscar asked.

“Rodger,” said Rodger.

Oscar thought some more. “What do you want to do, Rodger?” asked Oscar.

“I like the slide,” said Roger.

“It’s too high for me,” said Oscar. He started to walk away. But then he thought of something else.

“How about the swings?” he asked.

“Sure!” said Rodger.

They boys went on the swings together. They tried to swing so they would both go forward at the same time. They played a game to see who could swing higher.

“That was cool,” Oscar said to his dad on the way home.

“It was cool,” said his dad. “You compromised. You found something you could do together. That’s a great way to make a friend.” And it was.



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NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1. What did Oscar want to do?
 - a. Play ball
 - b. Go on the seesaw
 - c. Slide
 - d. Go on the swings

2. What did Rodger want to do?
 - a. Play ball
 - b. Go on the seesaw
 - c. Slide
 - d. Go on the swings

3. Why was Oscar sad?
 - a. Because he was too heavy for the seesaw
 - b. Because he was lonely
 - c. Because the kids wouldn't let him play ball
 - d. Because he didn't like the playground

4. How did Oscar and Rodger become friends?
 - a. They found something they could do together
 - b. They decided to play ball
 - c. They went on the seesaw
 - d. They went on the slide

Instructions for teachers:

These questions can be used to assess understanding of the reading passage.

The item in bold is the correct answer for each question.

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 - a. Play ball
 - b. Go on the seesaw**
 - c. Slide
 - d. Go on the swings
2. What did Rodger want to do?
 - a. Play ball
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