

Name _____ Date _____



Kim and Jess are best friends. They've been friends since first grade. They are in the same class, they play together at every recess, and every day they share their lunches with each other. They've never had an argument and couldn't even imagine being angry at one another.

One day during lunch, the two of them are walking to a table with their lunch trays. Jess is walking behind Kim while talking to another friend beside her. Suddenly, Kim sees that her shoe is untied, stops, and drops to one knee to tie it. Jess isn't watching and accidentally stumbles into Kim, dropping her tray of food right on Kim's back! At first, Kim is in shock. Then she becomes furious. She jumps up and whirls around, glaring at Jess. Jess looks back, eyes wide and an upset look on her face. "I'm so sorry! I didn't know you'd stopped!"

Kim is too angry to speak. She runs away to the bathroom and hides until her teacher finds her and brings her back to the classroom. Lunch is over, and all of the other students are in their seats. When they see Kim's back all covered with food, they start to laugh. Everyone except Jess laughs. The teacher sends Kim to the office so her mother can pick her up. Jess is sad when Kim doesn't come back to school for the rest of the day.

The next day, Jess sees Kim before class. She runs up to Kim and apologizes again, but Kim won't even look at her. She is still angry about what happened. Jess tries to catch her eye in class, but Kim ignores her. She tries to talk to her at recess, but Kim walks away. At lunch, the two girls sit separately in the cafeteria.

In the cafeteria, Kim feels miserable. Her anger has turned to sadness, and she is just noticing it. She feels very lonely. Although she has other friends, none of them are like Jess. She looks across the cafeteria and sees Jess sitting by herself, looking back at her. Kim wants to stay angry at Jess, but she misses her friend very much and can barely remember what it feels like to be angry at her. "After all," she thinks to herself, "it was only an accident."

Jess sees Kim watching her, and she lifts a tentative hand and waves. To her surprise, Kim comes to sit next to her. They sit silently for a moment, and after awhile, they're talking, laughing, and sharing their lunch again.

Values

Name _____ Date _____

What value is reflected in this story?

Choose three values from the list below. Tell how **two** of them are **not** demonstrated in this story, and tell how **one** of them **is** demonstrated.

citizenship	patience	initiative
generosity	forgiveness	trustworthy

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Why do you think the value reflected in this story is an important one?

Draw a picture to illustrate this value:



Values

Name _____ Date _____

Answers to FORGIVENESS:

Answers will vary and should reflect student understanding and ability. Answers should be discussed for clarity.

Answers to the first question may include some of the following ideas:

- Citizenship This value is not reflected in the story. The story doesn't talk about community membership at all.
- Patience While Jess may have showed patience in waiting for Kim to forgive her, it was not the main point of the story.
- Initiative Jess may have taken the initiative in trying to apologize to Kim to save their friendship, but it is not the main point of the story.
- Generosity The two girls do share lunch, but generosity is not the main value that is reflected in the story.
- Forgiveness This is the value reflected in the story. Kim must learn to not be angry at Jess for accidentally ruining her clothes and making her feel embarrassed in front of the class. If she wants to stay friends with Jess, Kim must forgive her.
- Trustworthy This value is not reflected in the story. Although Jess might trust that Kim will forgive her, trust is not a main theme here.

Answers to the second question may include that forgiveness helps us accept that people make mistakes; that forgiveness helps us keep our friends and makes us happier because of it; that forgiveness can help our friendships progress; etc.