COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Maya and the Tall Blue Slide

Maya and the Tall Blue Slide | Suggested ages 3-4



Maya feels scared of a tall slide and finds courage by trying one small step at a time.

Read, talk, and discover

The complete story is followed by questions and a separate answer guide. Read aloud together, pause to talk, and take your time.

Print on US Letter at actual size, or choose Fit for A4. Use single-sided printing for activity cards. Black-and-white printing is suitable.

Part 1

Maya ran into the sunny playground with Dad. Then she saw the tall blue slide and stopped beside the sandbox.

Part 2

Her tummy felt tight, and her knees felt shaky. Maya whispered, "That slide looks much too high for me."

Part 3

Dad knelt beside Maya and listened. He said feeling scared can happen when something is new and very tall.

Part 4

Maya put one hand on her tummy. She took a slow breath in, then blew it out like a breeze.

Part 5

First, Maya climbed only two steps. She looked around, climbed back down, and smiled because those steps felt safe.

Part 6

Next, Maya climbed to the little middle platform. Dad stayed close while she rested and took another slow breath.

Part 7

Maya climbed to the top, sat down, and pushed gently. She slid all the way down with a happy whoosh.

Part 8

At the bottom, Maya laughed and hugged Dad. Courage meant trying small steps even while a scared feeling stayed nearby.

Draw, tell, or write

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.

My favorite part, and why I chose it

STORY QUIZ

Think about the story

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question and all the choices. Circle one answer. A grown-up can read aloud; you can point or say your answer, too.

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1. What made Maya feel scared?

A. The tall blue slide	B. A tiny yellow flower	C. Her red sneakers

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

2. What did Dad do when Maya felt scared?

A. He ran away	B. He knelt beside Maya and listened	C. He hid the slide

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

3. How did Maya calm her body?

A. She shouted at the slide	B. She jumped into the sandbox	C. She took a slow breath

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

Questions 4 to 5

4. What small step did Maya try first?

A. She climbed only two steps	B. She climbed a tree	C. She went straight home

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

5. What did Maya learn about courage?

A. Courage means never feeling scared	B. Courage means trying small steps while scared	C. Courage means being the fastest

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

ANSWER GUIDE

For the grown-up

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Keep this page separate from the child's activity. Read directions aloud when helpful, and invite the child to explain their ideas.

1. A - The tall blue slide

The tall blue slide

2. B - He knelt beside Maya and listened

He knelt beside Maya and listened

3. C - She took a slow breath

She took a slow breath

4. A - She climbed only two steps

She climbed only two steps

5. B - Courage means trying small steps while scared

Courage means trying small steps while scared

Keep exploring

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.