COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Zara Shares One Small Word

Zara Shares One Small Word | Suggested ages 3-4



Zara feels shy at circle time and builds courage by sharing one small word with the group.

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

Zara sat in the morning circle while each child shared a favorite thing. Her turn moved closer and closer.

Part 2

Zara loved the red leaf in her pocket, but many watching eyes made every word feel stuck inside.

Part 3

When her name was called, Zara looked down. She told her teacher softly, "I feel shy about talking today."

Part 4

The teacher offered three choices: Zara could pass, whisper to her, or share only one small word aloud.

Part 5

Zara held the smooth leaf and listened to her breath. She chose one word she knew very well: "Red."

Part 6

The teacher smiled but did not rush her. Zara lifted the leaf and said, "Red," for everyone to hear.

Part 7

Her friends nodded, and one child said red was beautiful. Zara's next words came softly: "My favorite leaf."

Part 8

Zara felt shy and brave at the same time. One small word was enough to begin when she felt ready.

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 did Zara carry in her pocket?

A. A blue spoon	B. A green sock	C. A red leaf

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

2. What feeling did Zara name?

A. Shy	B. Hungry	C. Angry

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

3. How many choices did the teacher offer?

A. One	B. Three	C. Two

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

Questions 4 to 5

4. What first word did Zara share?

A. Circle	B. Morning	C. Red

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

5. What was enough to help Zara begin?

A. One small word	B. A loud song	C. Leaving the room

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. C - A red leaf

A red leaf

2. A - Shy

Shy

3. B - Three

Three

4. C - Red

Red

5. A - One small word

One small word

Keep exploring

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