COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Tilly Tries the New Tunnel

Tilly Tries the New Tunnel | Suggested ages 3-4



Tilly feels unsure about a dark tunnel and gathers courage by checking it slowly with a trusted friend.

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

Tilly the tiny train rolled along her familiar track. Ahead, workers had opened a new short tunnel through the hill.

Part 2

The tunnel entrance looked dark, and Tilly's wheels became still. She worried she might not know what waited inside.

Part 3

Her friend Bruno stopped beside her. Tilly said, "I feel unsure. May we look before I go through?"

Part 4

Bruno shone a warm lantern into the tunnel. They saw smooth rails, pale walls, and daylight at the other end.

Part 5

Tilly moved forward only one wheel turn. She listened, looked, and noticed the tunnel was quiet and clear.

Part 6

Bruno stayed close while Tilly rolled slowly inside. They counted each gentle click until bright daylight reached them.

Part 7

Tilly came out beneath a field of daisies. The new path led to a beautiful station she had never seen.

Part 8

Tilly learned she could check, ask, and move slowly when something felt uncertain. Careful courage carried her through.

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 new thing did Tilly see?

A. A flying bridge	B. A short tunnel	C. A purple ocean

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

2. How did the tunnel make Tilly feel?

A. Hungry	B. Silly	C. Unsure

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

3. What did Bruno shine into the tunnel?

A. A warm lantern	B. A mirror	C. A rainbow

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

Questions 4 to 5

4. How far did Tilly move at first?

A. Ten miles	B. One wheel turn	C. Back to her shed

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

5. What could Tilly do when something felt uncertain?

A. Rush without looking	B. Close every track	C. Check, ask, and move slowly

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. B - A short tunnel

A short tunnel

2. C - Unsure

Unsure

3. A - A warm lantern

A warm lantern

4. B - One wheel turn

One wheel turn

5. C - Check, ask, and move slowly

Check, ask, and move slowly

Keep exploring

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