COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Theo and the Whispering Mailbox

Theo and the Whispering Mailbox | Suggested ages 5-6



Theo investigates a mailbox that whispers on windy afternoons and finds a harmless cause inside its loose flag.

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

Each windy afternoon, Theo heard a faint whoo-whoo beside Grandma's blue mailbox. The sound stopped whenever the breeze became still.

Part 2

Theo listened from the porch, the gate, and the sidewalk. The whisper sounded loudest near the little red flag on the mailbox door.

Part 3

He wondered if a bird was trapped inside, so Grandma opened the empty box carefully. There were no feathers, twigs, or tiny visitors.

Part 4

Theo held a ribbon near the box and watched it flutter. When a gust arrived, the loose metal flag shook over a narrow round hole.

Part 5

He covered the hole gently with one finger. The whisper stopped, although the flag continued to wiggle in the wind.

Part 6

Grandma tightened the flag's screw and added a small rubber washer. Another gust moved the ribbon, but the mailbox stayed quiet.

Part 7

Theo tested the box three more times before deciding. Each windy test stayed silent, and each calm test was silent too.

Part 8

Theo learned that strange sounds can have ordinary causes. Listening from different places and changing one thing at a time revealed the answer.

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. When did Theo hear the mailbox whisper?

A. Only at midnight	B. On windy afternoons	C. During breakfast

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

2. Where was the whisper loudest?

A. Under the porch	B. Beside the garden hose	C. Near the red mailbox flag

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

3. What did Grandma find inside the mailbox?

A. An empty box	B. A sleeping bird	C. A secret letter

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

Questions 4 to 5

4. What stopped the whisper during Theo's test?

A. Closing the gate	B. Covering the narrow hole	C. Holding the ribbon

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

5. How did they fix the mailbox?

A. They painted it green	B. They moved it indoors	C. They tightened the flag and added a washer

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 - On windy afternoons

On windy afternoons

2. C - Near the red mailbox flag

Near the red mailbox flag

3. A - An empty box

An empty box

4. B - Covering the narrow hole

Covering the narrow hole

5. C - They tightened the flag and added a washer

They tightened the flag and added a washer

Keep exploring

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