

Name : _____

Making Math a Breeze

by Liana Mahoney

Blake hated math. He hated to add. He hated to subtract. He hated to multiply and divide.

Mr. Clemmons, his math teacher, had given the class three pages of homework this weekend. Blake sat at the kitchen table as he stared at the papers. He tried to

concentrate, but it was no use. He thought about going outside skateboarding.

"What's wrong?" Aunt Angie asked. "I came home from work and you're sitting here looking sad."

"It takes too long," he said. "Aunt Angie thought I was being lazy."

She borrowed a pencil and drew a second circle around the number 2.

Blake watched her. "Come sit by me," she said. "I'll help you."

She drew shapes on the paper. "Listen to me," she said. "I'll help you."

Soon Blake was able to add and subtract with ease. Multiplication and division were a breeze.

"Thanks for helping me," Blake said. He gave Aunt Angie a big hug.

"No problem," she replied. "Do you need anything else while we're at it?"

Blake grinned, thinking of the rest of his homework. "Are you any good at English?"



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... on him until Dad she asked.

... cil.

... he said.

... ece of paper. Then she

... came curious.

... trick you can use."

... the other. Blake

... d of learning math.

Name : _____

Making Math a Breeze

- 1) Which structure does the text use?
 - a) compare-contrast
 - b) cause-effect
 - c) problem-solution
 - d) sequential

- 2) Why do you think Blake sat staring at his homework, unable to concentrate?

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- 3) How did Aunt A _____

- 4) Read the text be _____
Blake grinned, t _____ is English homework?
any good at English?"

- 5) Write the meanings of these phrases and use them in sentences of your own.
 - a) to keep an eye on: _____

 - b) to be a breeze: _____

Making Math a Breeze

- 1) Which structure does the text use?
- a) compare-contrast
- b) cause-effect
- c) problem-solution
- d) sequential
- 2) Why do you think Blake sat staring at his homework, unable to concentrate?

He disliked math.

He would rather

be outside skating.

He would rather

be outside skating.

- 3) How did Aunt Angie help Blake?

She showed Blake

how to solve

the problem.

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She showed Blake

how to solve

the problem.

- 4) Read the text below.

Blake grinned, then

Blake is as strong

Aunt Angie's help

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is English homework?

any good at English?"

. He is looking for

- 5) Write the meanings of these phrases and use them in sentences of your own.

a) to keep an eye on: **to look after someone or something**

The teacher kept an eye on the children while they were near the pool.

b) to be a breeze: **to be extremely easy**

Learning to ride a bike was a breeze for Emilie.