

A Rule Is A Rule

by Katie Clark

Jessie sat at her desk in Mrs. Williamson's class. They were learning about reptile skeletons, which Jessie normally enjoyed. Today, though, a bird had perched outside the classroom window. Jessie's desk was right next to the window. It was so distracting.

"Jessie, are you listening?" Mrs. Williamson's question interrupted her thoughts.

Jessie blinked and looked at the teacher.

The teacher frowned. "You're going to need to pay attention in class."

Jessie's cheeks got red. She knew she shouldn't have said that to her. Jessie couldn't help it. The bird was so distracting.

When the bell rang, Mrs. Williamson said, "I hope you will think about what I said, so you can follow the rules."

Jessie nodded to show she understood, but she didn't really want to talk about it. She still thought Mrs. Williamson was being mean.

She raced outside to play kickball with the other kids. They picked teams and made the rules. When a team got two outs they had to go to the outfield. Whichever team scored the most runs won.



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Jessie's team was in the outfield first. She was guarding second base. The first kicker got one out. The next kicker kicked a home run and scored a point. The girl smiled at Jessie as she jogged past second base. The next kicker got another out. That made two outs. Now it was Jessie's turn to kick the ball.

However, instead of switching places and giving Jessie's team a chance to score, the other team quit.

Jessie frowned. "That's not fair!" she complained.

One of the other players said, "That's the rule," the boy explained.

"But you have to follow the rule is a rule!"

As soon as she said that, Mrs. Williamson had been so strict. Rules were important.

When the bell rang, she went straight to her teacher.

"Mrs. Williamson, I'm sorry from now on," Jessie said, "I'm going to do better."

Her teacher smiled and said, "Well done, you, Jessie. It was very brave of you to apologize."

Jessie smiled, too. She felt much better, and she understood now. She needed to follow the class guidelines. After all, a rule is a rule!

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Name : _____

A Rule Is A Rule

- 1) Why was Jessie reluctant to talk when the teacher stopped her at recess to remind about the rule?

- 2) What according to Jessie was not fair?

- 3) Change the verb

play -

teach -

- 4) Write a short no

- 5) Imagine a day at school without rules. Write two pros and cons of rules.

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Name : _____

A Rule Is A Rule

1) Why was Jessie reluctant to talk when the teacher stopped her at recess to remind about the rule?

Jessie was reluctant to talk to the teacher, because she thought the teacher was being mean.

2) What according to Jessie was not fair?

**Instead of switching
other team qu**

ance to score, the

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3) Change the verb

play -
teach -

kicker

follower

4) Write a short no

**Jessie never fa
the distraction
disobedient b**

Had it not been for

en stamped as

felt remorse for

what she did in the class and apologized to the teacher.

5) Imagine a day at school without rules. Write two pros and cons of rules.

Answers may vary.