

# Memorial Day

by Katie Clark

The school bell rang and Grayson grabbed his notebook. He slipped past his classmates and raced to his locker, retrieved his backpack, and rushed outside.



He scanned the area near the buses. There was Andrea! He could tell toward her.

"Hi Andrea."

Andrea smiled

"We're having

want to."

Andrea's smile

"Are you sure?"

"Sorry, I can't."

can come if you

an't."

ite."

word.

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Grayson glanced toward the car line. Grandma was waiting. He would have to talk to Andrea later.

He met Grandma at the van and climbed in. "Hi Grandma."

"How was your day?" she asked.

He shrugged. "I think I upset my friend Andrea."

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Grandma started driving toward the community pool where she would leave him for swim lessons. "Do you want to tell me about it?"

Grayson explained what had happened. Grandma nodded slowly. "Did Andrea mention her aunt?"

"Andrea's aunt was a soldier. Did you know that?"

Grayson shook his head. He hadn't known.

"Her aunt passed  
probably a hard day  
who have lost their lives

Grayson hadn't

Grandma dropped  
and dad about what

"We could go  
the soldiers."

Grayson brightened

On Monday, hundreds  
American flags lined

Memorial Day is  
to honor the soldiers  
to come to his picnic.

he talked to his mom

"That's a way to honor

way to the parade.  
the parade started.

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Grayson waved to the people as they passed. Then he spotted familiar dark curls. It was Andrea! She was riding in one of the cars in the parade. He waved enthusiastically to catch her attention. When she saw him she smiled back.

After the parade, Grayson found Andrea in the crowd. "I didn't know about your aunt," he said. "I'm sorry."

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

"Thanks for saying that," she said. She looked over her shoulder. "My dad is over there. Do you think we could still come to your picnic?"

"Sure!" Grayson said.

An hour later, Grayson and his family gathered in his backyard with Andrea and her dad. They swam and ate hotdogs in the warm evening air.

It was the best Memorial Day Grayson had ever had. Now he understood it wasn't about picnics. It was about remembering the people who served the country. He would never forget that again.

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# Memorial Day

- 1) What is the most important moral of the story?
  - a) Children must understand the importance of national days while celebrating life.
  - b) People should not offend others' feelings.
  - c) Memorial Day is the most important national holiday in America.
  - d) The elderly should play a pivotal role in educating kids.

2) "It was the best

made Grayson think so?

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3) Why do you think

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