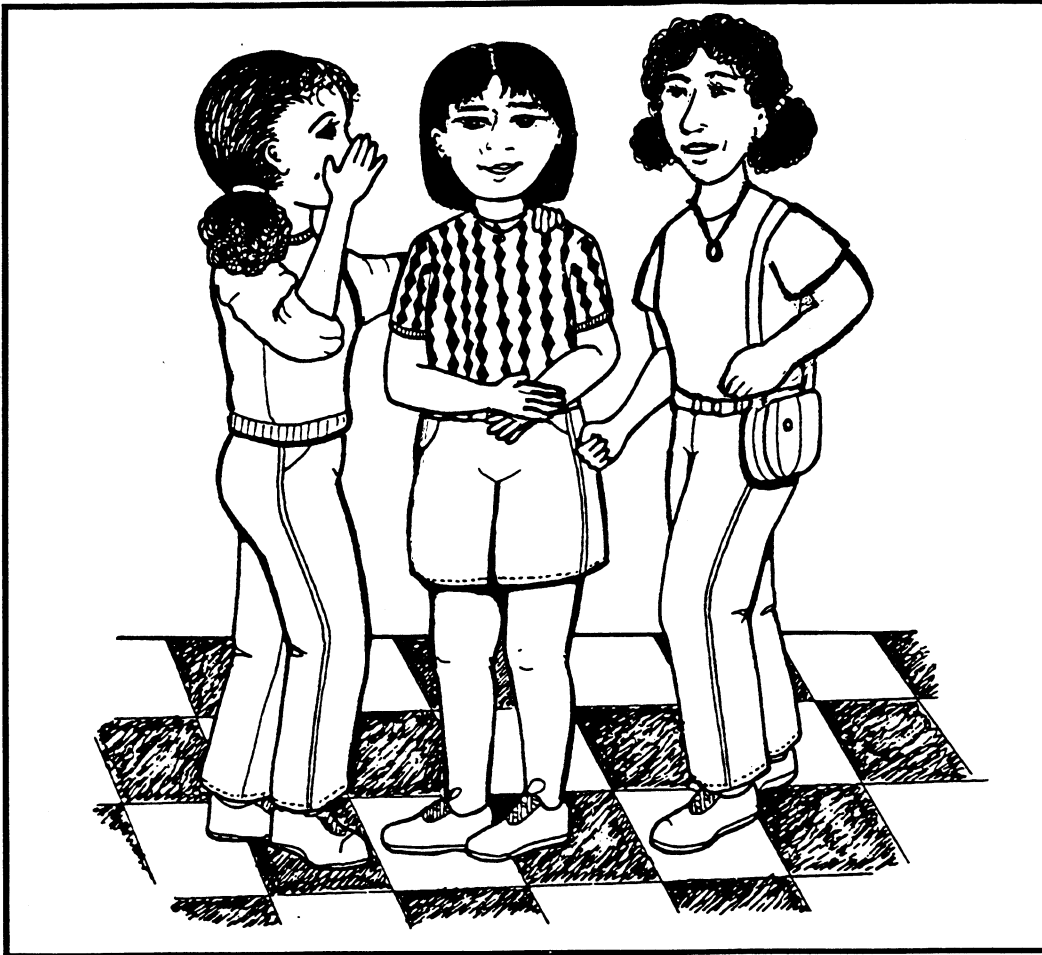


Story 33 - The Ridiculous Rumors

Student: _____

Date: _____

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Kate was very well-liked in school. In addition to being pretty, she had a nice personality. Nancy was very envious of Kate because she had so many friends.

Nancy tried to win over some of Kate's friends by giving them some very costly gifts. Nancy could buy a few friends, but Kate's true friends couldn't be bought.

Then Nancy started giving false information about Kate's behavior to everyone she knew. Kate's friends all told her what Nancy was saying about her. Some of the rumors were so absurd that they made Kate laugh.

"What a troubled person Nancy must be to say something like that!" Kate said.

Vocabulary Words

Give a definition for each word as it is used in the story. Then use it in a sentence.

1. envious

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2. costly

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3. absurd

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

Thinking Questions

1. Why do you think Nancy spread false information about Kate?

2. What would you say to Nancy if you were Kate?

3. Why do you think Nancy had trouble making friends?

4. What suggestions would you give Nancy to help her make new friends?

5. What would you do if a classmate was spreading untrue rumors about you at school?

Story 49 - The Team Effort

Student: _____

Date: _____

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Coach Harlan was the coach for the little league baseball team. Even though he had taught the players that "winning isn't everything," the team morale was low due to a long losing streak.

The team had been defeated in almost every game. Since Coach Harlan knew that his team didn't have a chance to win the season championship, he decided to let his two worst players play today.

"It won't matter if we win or lose anyway," he thought.

Ed and Jack hadn't played in very many games during the baseball season. When Coach Harlan told them to get ready to play today, their joy and excitement brought a new spirit to the team.

As they played ball, Ed and Jack cheered their team on. They even scored some runs. They were able to get their team to work together for the first time.

Coach Harlan's team won the game and ended its losing streak. The team members learned that they played their best when they supported one another.

Vocabulary Words

Give a definition for each word as it is used in the story. Then use it in a sentence.

1. morale

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2. defeated

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3. spirit

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

Thinking Questions

1. Why do you think the team morale was so low?

2. Do you think Coach Harlan was a good coach? Why or why not?

3. How do you think Coach Harlan felt about Ed and Jack after his team had won?

4. What do you think makes up a winning team?

5. If you were a coach, what would you say to improve the team's morale before an important game?
