

Name: _____

Snow Dance

by Kelly Hashway

Arianna rushed into the living room where her father was turning off the television.

“Well, what did they say?” Arianna asked.

Her father shook his head. “Sorry, Sweetie. Only flurries in the forecast. No accumulation.”

Arianna sighed. Winter was her favorite season for one reason alone—snow. She loved the fluffy white stuff. It made the trees and ground sparkle. It meant snowball fights, snowmen, and best of all sledding. She’d even gotten a new sled for Christmas. But what good was a new sled without snow?

She pulled her sled out from under the tree. It still had a big red bow on it. “All I really wanted for Christmas was a new sled. But now that I have it, I can’t even use it. This is turning out to be the worst winter ever.”

Her father patted her shoulder. “There’s still plenty of time for snow, sweetie. Winter’s only just begun. Give it time and the snow will come.”

“Yeah, but winter break will be over soon, and I haven’t gotten to use my sled yet.”

“What about all your other Christmas gifts? Why don’t you play with them? I bet you’ll have so much fun you won’t even miss the snow.”



Arianna sighed. Her father just didn't understand. She grabbed her sled and moved it to the middle of the living room floor.

"What are you doing?" her father asked.

"A snow dance," Arianna said, marching around the sled. She raised her hands in the air and chanted, "Snow, snow, snow."

Her father laughed but Arianna kept dancing and chanting. She did her snow dance for three straight days before she gave up. She went to bed that night without even checking the weather report.

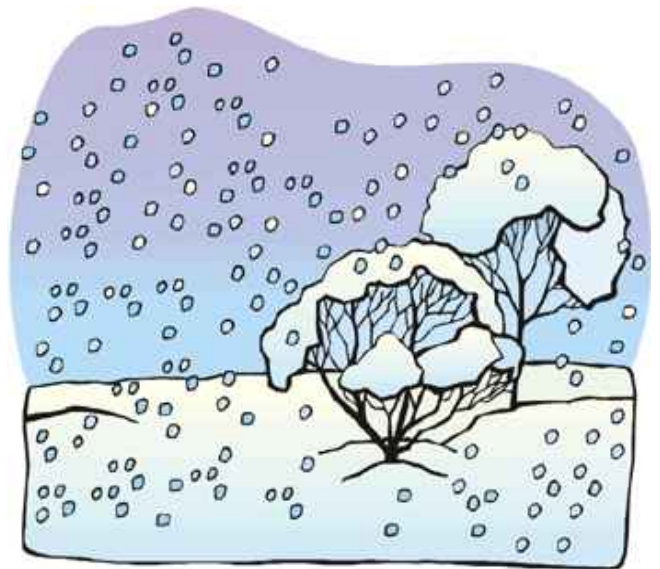
In the morning she woke up to something lying next to her in bed. She opened her eyes and saw her sled.

"Thought you'd want to get an early start," her father said, sipping on his morning coffee.

"It snowed?" Arianna asked, sitting up.

"The weather man reported the storm last night. I tried to tell you, but you had already gone to bed. I guess your snow dance worked."

Arianna laughed. "Or I just had to wait until the snow was ready like you said. But either way, I'm going sledding before breakfast!"



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1. What was the author's purpose for writing this story?
- a. to teach readers how to make it snow outside
 - b. to give information about how people live in snowy climates
 - c. to entertain readers with a story about a girl who wants snow
 - d. to entertain readers with a story about sledding, snowmen, and snowball fights

2. Arianna's father says, "Sorry Sweetie. Only flurries in the forecast. No accumulation." What does the word accumulation mean?

- a. snow that falls during the night
- b. snow that sticks to the ground
- c. snow that is more than six inches deep
- d. snow that is slippery

3. During which month does this story take place? _____

4. Describe Arianna's snow dance.

5. Read the following sentence from the story and write a definition for the underlined word.
Her father laughed but Arianna kept dancing and chanting.

Challenge: Write a short poem titled, "Snow Dance." Read your poem aloud to a friend or family member and perform your own snow dance.

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Snow Dance

Parts of a Story



Characters: List the main characters and briefly describe them.

Setting: Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

Problem: Describe the main character's problem.

Solution: Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

Personal Opinion: Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

ANSWER KEY

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1. What was the author's purpose for writing this story? **c**
 - a. to teach readers how to make it snow outside
 - b. to give information about how people live in snowy climates
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 - d. to entertain readers with a story about sledding, snowmen, and snowball fights

2. Arianna's father says, "Sorry Sweetie. Only flurries in the forecast. No accumulation." What does the word accumulation mean? **b**
 - a. snow that falls during the night
 - b. **snow that sticks to the ground**
 - c. snow that is more than six inches deep
 - d. snow that is slippery

3. During which month does this story take place? **December**

4. Describe Arianna's snow dance.
She placed the sled in the center of the living room. She marched around the sled, and raised her hands in the air. She chanted "Snow, snow, snow."

5. Read the following sentence from the story and write a definition for the underlined word.
Her father laughed but Arianna kept dancing and chanting.
Repeating the same words again and again.

Challenge: Write a short poem titled, "Snow Dance." Read your poem aloud to a friend or family member and perform your own snow dance.

ANSWER KEY

Snow Dance

Parts of a Story



Characters: List the main characters and briefly describe them.

Arianna - a girl who loves winter

Arianna's father - a man who is optimistic and loving towards his daughter

Setting: Tell where and when the story takes place. Be specific.

This story takes place indoors during winter vacation, shortly after Christmas.

Problem: Describe the main character's problem.

Arianna wants it to snow so she can use the sled she got for Christmas.

Solution: Tell how the problem was solved, and how the story ended.

Arianna does a creative snow dance in the living room and goes to bed. The next morning, she awakes to find that it snowed overnight.

Personal Opinion: Tell whether or not you liked the story, and justify your opinion.

Answers will vary.