

▲ Lesson 7

Jimmy's Birthday

What Do You Know?

In “Jimmy’s Birthday” a boy goes to the park with his friends on his birthday. Jimmy is surprised by an animal he sees at the park. Think about birthdays.



Answer the following questions.

1. When is your birthday? _____

2. How old were you on your last birthday? _____

3. What did you do on your last birthday? _____

4. Circle the things you would like to do for your next birthday.

have a party

go to the zoo

go out to eat

go to the park with my friends

eat birthday cake

go on a trip

5. What could you do for a friend on his or her birthday? _____

What kind of animal does Jimmy see at the park on his birthday? Read “Jimmy’s Birthday” to find out.



Jimmy's Birthday

“Today is your birthday, Jimmy,” said his father, Mr. Holmes. “Happy birthday! What do you want to do today for a birthday celebration?”

Jimmy said, “I know! I want to have a picnic in the park with my friends Karl and José.”

“Call them, and see if they can come to the park-with us. I will get ready for our picnic,” said-Mr. Holmes.

Jimmy called Karl. “Can you go on a picnic in the park today for my birthday?” he asked.

“That will be fun! Let me ask my mother,” Karl-said. Then he said to Jimmy, “She said yes.-I-can go.”

Then Jimmy asked José, and José could go too.

“This is going to be a good birthday,” Jimmy said to his father.



Mr. Holmes and Jimmy went in the car to get Karl and José. Then they all headed for the park.

Jimmy, José, and Karl were good friends. When they were in the car, José said to his friends, “What animal do you like best?”

Karl said, “I think I like bears best. They are big. Which animal do you like best?”

“I like horses,” said José. “They are fast and pretty.”

“I like monkeys best,” said Jimmy.

“Why do you like them best?” asked Karl.


“Well, they are very smart. I have read about them in books. I like them very much. Do you know how smart they are?”

“How smart are they?” asked Karl

“They are so smart that they can be trained as good helpers for people who need help.”

“I did not know that,” said Karl.

“Here we are at the park, boys,” said Mr.-Holmes. “Today is a very good day for a picnic.” The boys helped Mr. Holmes carry the-food to a table in the park.



“This looks like a good place for a picnic,” said Mr. Holmes. The boys put the bread, corn, apples, and cake on the table.

José and Karl went back to the car to carry more food. Jimmy was by the table. All at once he saw what looked like a little monkey take an apple from the table. Then he saw the monkey come up and take some bread.

When the boys and Mr. Holmes came back from the car, Jimmy said, “I just saw a monkey!”

“No, you did not see a monkey,” said José.

Then Mr. Holmes asked, “Where is our bread?”

Jimmy said to him, “The monkey has the bread.”

They all laughed. Mr. Holmes said, “That is very funny, Jimmy. But where is the bread?”

Jimmy said, “I do not have it. A monkey came over here. It got an apple and the bread.”

They all looked at Jimmy. “But that cannot be,” said his father.

Just then, as all four of them were talking, the little monkey came back. This time they watched it take some of the birthday cake.



“See?” said Jimmy. “I said there was a monkey.”

“How can there be a monkey in the park?” asked Mr. Holmes.

Just then a man came over from a table next to their table. “Good day. I am looking for my pet monkey. He came here with us for a picnic, but I-do not see him now. Have you seen him?”

The boys and Mr. Holmes laughed. “Yes,” said Mr. Holmes, “we have seen your pet. He likes bread and cake.”

“Yes, that is him,” laughed the man.

Then the pet monkey came to the table for more food.

“There you are! Let’s go back to our table now,”-said the man to the monkey. Then the monkey made a laughing noise and walked up to-the man.

“Thank you for helping me find him!” called out the man as he walked back to his table.

“Well, that was a good birthday surprise for you, Jimmy,” said his father. “You got a picnic, and you got to see the animal you like best!”

What Did You Find?

Match the letter of the correct answer to the character it describes.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Jimmy | a. likes horses the best |
| _____ 2. Karl | b. likes bears the best |
| _____ 3. José | c. took some apples, bread, and cake |
| _____ 4. Mr. Holmes | d. wanted to go to the park for his birthday |
| _____ 5. the monkey | e. took his son and his son's two friends to the park |

Complete the sentences below with words from the story.

6. Jimmy wanted to have a _____ for his birthday.
7. Jimmy and his friends were surprised to see a _____ in the park.

Answer the following questions.

8. Would you like to have a pet monkey? _____
- Why or why not? _____
- _____

▲ Fact and Opinion

When you read, you will find facts and opinions. Facts are things that can be proven. Opinions are beliefs someone has that cannot be proven.

Read the following sentences from “Jimmy’s Birthday.” One sentence is a fact, and one is an opinion.

“Today is your birthday, Jimmy,” said Fact father, Mr. Holmes.	“This looks like a good place for Opinion ,” said Mr. Holmes.
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Jimmy’s birthday *was* on the day he went to the park. That fact can be proven. Mr. Holmes believes the place he chooses in the park is a good place for a picnic. That is an opinion, and it cannot be proven.

Read each of the following sentences based on the story “Jimmy’s Birthday.” Write *F* in the blank if the sentence is a fact. Write *O* in the blank if the sentence is an opinion.

- _____ 1. A picnic is the best kind of birthday celebration.
- _____ 2. Horses are very pretty animals.
- _____ 3. “This is a good birthday,” said Jimmy.
- _____ 4. The little monkey took some bread from the table.

▲ Writing Using Fact and Opinion

Read the following sentences about monkeys. If the sentence is a fact, write it under Facts. If the sentence is an opinion, write it under Opinions.

That zoo has two monkeys.

“Monkeys are better than horses,” said Jimmy.

Those monkeys are very funny.

That monkey has a brown tail.

A monkey would be a good pet.

Facts

1. _____

2. _____

Opinions

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____
