

The next week at school, Mei Lee's teacher told the class there was going to be a dance. Mei Lee was very excited. She had never been to a dance before. Mei Lee rushed home and asked her mother if she could have a new smock to wear.

"Please, please can I have a new smock to wear to the school dance?" asked Mei Lee.

"Oh Mei Lee, I wish you could. We just don't have the money to buy the silk. I'm sorry," replied her mother sadly.

Mei Lee was very sad. She wished and wished she could have a new smock to wear to the school dance.





QUESTION AND ANSWER QAR 1. Have you ever been to a dance? 2. What did Mei Lee's mother say when Mei Lee asked about a new smock? 3. Why did Mei Lee go from feeling excited to feeling sad? _____ 4. What might Mei Lee do next?





That night, when the silkworms had finished eating the leaves of the mulberry tree, they had a meeting. They had listened to Mei Lee's mother tell Mei Lee she couldn't have a new silk smock to wear to the dance. The silkworms knew how much Mei Lee wanted a new smock, so they made a plan. They planned to give her a very special present.

The silkworms got to work and began to spin their silk cocoons.

They worked very hard. They worked all that night and all the next day. When night came again, the cocoons were finished. Each cocoon was made of lots of silk and the silkworms were ready to become moths. They climbed out of their cocoons and stretched their beautiful wings.

Now the silk moths were ready to work on the second part of their plan. They flew carefully, holding the fine silk threads from their cocoons. The moths flew in and out, weaving their threads.

Soon they had woven a lovely piece of the softest silk fabric. It was just the right size to make a new smock for Mei Lee.



QUESTION AND ANSWER

QAR

1. What did the silkworms do for

Mei Lee? _____

2. What does silk feel like? _____

3. What type of story is this? _____

4.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____