

# The Birthday Game

By: Deborah Lynn

Emily was so happy. Today was her birthday. When she got home from school there were blue and white balloons on the mailbox. There was a big sign that read, “Happy Birthday, Emily!” Her sister, who was ten years old, met her at the mailbox.

“We are playing a Birthday Game,” her sister said. “You have to find your gift. Here is your first clue.” She gave Emily a small piece of folded paper. Emily looked at it carefully.

“It was a good thing she had learned to read in school this year,” she thought. She opened the note and read, “Clue number 1: Look inside the car.” So she looked inside the car. She found a dog bone with another note stuck on it. Emily took off the note and began to read. “Clue number 2: Look on the front porch.” So Emily went to the front porch. There on the swing was a bag of dog food with another note. Again she quickly read the note. “Clue number 3: Look in the house by the back door.” Emily went to the back door and there was a dog’s leash.

“Hmmm,” she thought. “A dog bone, dog food, and a dog’s leash...but we don’t even have a dog.” The note on the leash said to go outside. So Emily did and do you know what she saw? A red doghouse with a big bow on it!

“That must be my next clue,” she thought. She began to walk to the doghouse, but before she got there a little brown puppy ran up to her. It had a note on it. The note said, “Happy Birthday, Emily.”

“Oh, a puppy!” she cried.

She picked up the puppy and it licked her face over and over again. Emily was so happy! She loved her new little puppy and she even gave it some Birthday Cake and ice cream.

“I will name her Happy, because she has made me so happy today,” Emily said. She gave her mom, dad and sister a big hug.

“Thank you,” she said with a smile. “This is the best birthday ever!”



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Why was Emily so happy today?
  - A. Because she got an A on her test.
  - B. Because she was out of school and could play.
  - C. Because it was her Birthday.
  - D. Because she learned to read in school.
  
2. What did Emily's sister do?
  - A. She gave her clues to find a gift.
  - B. She told her she was late.
  - C. She carried Emily's books.
  - D. She gave her a birthday cake.
  
3. What was the first clue?
  - A. A banana.
  - B. A dog bone.
  - C. A teddy bear.
  - D. Dog food.
  
4. What was the gift that Emily got?
  - A. A book.
  - B. A kitten.
  - C. A puppy.
  - D. A tea set.
  
5. What did Emily name her gift and why?
  - A. Honey, because she liked honey.
  - B. Happy, because she made Emily happy.
  - C. Birthday, because it was her Birthday.
  - D. Dog, because she is a dog

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## ANSWER KEY

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