

The Science Fair

Read the story. Then answer the questions on the next page.

- 1 The science fair was one week away. Priya wanted to know which paper towel was best at cleaning up spills. She bought three brands: one cheap, one thick, and one with a fancy pattern.
- 2 First, Priya **predicted** what would happen. She made a careful guess before she began. “The thick towel will win,” she wrote in her notebook.
- 3 Next, she poured the same amount of water into three cups. She dipped one towel into each cup to see how much it could **absorb**. A good towel soaks up water like a sponge. Then she measured the water left in each cup. To be **accurate**, Priya used a measuring cup. She wanted every number to be exactly right, with no mistakes.
- 4 Priya was **astonished** by what she saw. She was so surprised that she tested the towels two more times. The cheap towel had soaked up the most water every time! Her guess had been wrong, and that was fine. She had learned something new.
- 5 At the fair, Priya showed her chart to the judges. They asked many questions and smiled at her answers. Later, the judges **awarded** her a blue ribbon. They gave it to her as a prize for her careful work.



The Science Fair: Questions

The words near a new word are clues. Underline each clue in the color shown.

1. In paragraph 2, what does predicted mean?

red

- ☐ guessed ahead of time
- ☐ forgot
- ☐ drew a picture of

2. What does absorb mean? Write the words from the story that helped you.

orange

3. In paragraph 3, what does accurate mean?

yellow

- ☐ fast
- ☐ exactly right
- ☐ messy

4. In paragraph 4, what does astonished mean?

green

- ☐ bored
- ☐ sleepy
- ☐ very surprised

5. In paragraph 5, what does awarded mean?

blue

- ☐ sold
- ☐ gave
- ☐ mailed

6. Write your own sentence with the word astonished.

The Science Fair: Answer Key

Answers are in green. The proof is where to find each answer in the text.

1. In paragraph 2, what does predicted mean?

red

☒ guessed ahead of time

☐ forgot

☐ drew a picture of

Proof Paragraph 2: “She made a careful guess before she began.”

2. What does absorb mean? Write the words from the story that helped you.

orange

Absorb means to soak up. Clue: “A good towel soaks up water like a sponge.”

3. In paragraph 3, what does accurate mean?

yellow

☐ fast

☒ exactly right

☐ messy

Proof Paragraph 3: “She wanted every number to be exactly right, with no mistakes.”

4. In paragraph 4, what does astonished mean?

green

☐ bored

☐ sleepy

☒ very surprised

Proof Paragraph 4: “She was so surprised that she tested the towels two more times.”

5. In paragraph 5, what does awarded mean?

blue

☐ sold

☒ gave

☐ mailed

Proof Paragraph 5: “They gave it to her as a prize for her careful work.”

6. Write your own sentence with the word astonished.

Answers will vary. Example: We were astonished when the magician pulled a bird out of his hat.