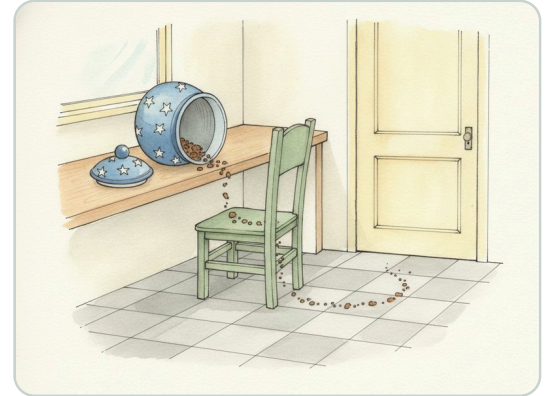


The Empty Cookie Jar

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

- 1 On Saturday morning, Dad baked two dozen oatmeal cookies for the school fair. He left them to cool on the counter and filled the big blue jar before lunch. “Nobody touches these until tomorrow,” he said, looking straight at Marcus.
- 2 After lunch, Marcus went outside to shoot baskets. His little sister, Tessa, stayed in the kitchen to finish a drawing. Their dog, Biscuit, lay under the table with his chin on his paws, watching her.
- 3 When Marcus came back in an hour later, the lid of the blue jar sat on the floor. The jar was tipped on its side, and only three cookies were left. A kitchen chair had been pushed up against the counter. Crumbs made a trail across the tile to the back door.
- 4 Tessa was in the living room, very busy with a puzzle. She did not look up when Marcus walked in. There was a smear of something brown on her sleeve, and she kept her mouth tightly closed. Out in the yard, Biscuit was licking his lips and wagging his tail so hard that his whole body wiggled.
- 5 Marcus heard Dad’s car pull into the driveway. He looked at the jar, then at his sister, then at the dog. He sighed, picked up the lid, and went to find the broom. “Tessa,” he called, “you had better come help me. We have about one minute.”



The Empty Cookie Jar: Questions

The text does not say the answer. Find the clue that helps you and underline it in the color shown.

1. Why does Dad look straight at Marcus when he gives his warning?

red

- ☐ Marcus is the oldest child.
- ☐ Dad thinks Marcus is the one most likely to take a cookie.
- ☐ Marcus baked the cookies.

2. How did someone reach the cookie jar?

orange

- ☐ by climbing on a chair
- ☐ by jumping
- ☐ by asking Dad

3. Which sentence best shows that Biscuit ate some of the cookies?

yellow

- ☐ Their dog, Biscuit, lay under the table with his chin on his paws, watching her.
- ☐ He left them to cool on the counter and filled the big blue jar before lunch.
- ☐ Out in the yard, Biscuit was licking his lips and wagging his tail so hard that his whole body wiggled.

4. Why does Tessa keep her mouth tightly closed? Write the clue that helps you.

green

5. What can you infer about Marcus at the end of the story?

blue

- ☐ He is angry and wants Tessa to get in trouble.
- ☐ He plans to eat the last three cookies.
- ☐ He has worked out what happened and wants to help his sister.

6. What do you think will happen when Dad walks in? Use a clue from the story to explain.

The Empty Cookie Jar: Answer Key

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

1. Why does Dad look straight at Marcus when he gives his warning?

red

- ☐ Marcus is the oldest child.
- ☒ Dad thinks Marcus is the one most likely to take a cookie.
- ☐ Marcus baked the cookies.

Proof Paragraph 1: ““Nobody touches these until tomorrow,” he said, looking straight at Marcus.”

2. How did someone reach the cookie jar?

orange

- ☒ by climbing on a chair
- ☐ by jumping
- ☐ by asking Dad

Proof Paragraph 3: “A kitchen chair had been pushed up against the counter.”

3. Which sentence best shows that Biscuit ate some of the cookies?

yellow

- ☐ Their dog, Biscuit, lay under the table with his chin on his paws, watching her.
- ☐ He left them to cool on the counter and filled the big blue jar before lunch.
- ☒ Out in the yard, Biscuit was licking his lips and wagging his tail so hard that his whole body wiggled.

Proof Paragraph 4: “Out in the yard, Biscuit was licking his lips and wagging his tail so hard that his whole body wiggled.”

4. Why does Tessa keep her mouth tightly closed? Write the clue that helps you.

green

She probably has cookie in her mouth, or she does not want to talk about it. Clue: the brown smear on her sleeve, and she will not look up.

5. What can you infer about Marcus at the end of the story?

blue

- ☐ He is angry and wants Tessa to get in trouble.
- ☐ He plans to eat the last three cookies.
- ☒ He has worked out what happened and wants to help his sister.

Proof Paragraph 5: ““Tessa,” he called, “you had better come help me. We have about one minute.””

6. What do you think will happen when Dad walks in? Use a clue from the story to explain.

Answers will vary. Example: Dad will see that most of the cookies are gone, because only three are left and there is not time to hide that.