

## Excerpt from ***No More Magic***

By Avi

Lexile Level: 780 | F&P: Level R | DRA: 40 (434 Words)



*Introduction: Chris's bike was stolen on Halloween night. Chris loved his bike, and he was working very hard to find it.*

I just didn't feel like doing anything much for the rest of the day. Mike went out with his friends so I stayed up in my room and played, building a neat castle and fighting a war with the plastic knights my mother had gotten for me. I made one Merlin The Magician. That was Saturday.

The next morning, Sunday, we had our usual family breakfast, about the only time the bunch of us get to sit down and take as long as we want. About halfway through my mother said, "I have an idea."

Now when she or my father says that, that's not what they really mean. It's their way of announcing they've deciding something.

"Maybe we should get you another bike," she said. "Mr. Bullen is open on Sundays. I'm sure we could find one."

"What happens if he finds the one he lost?" asked Mike.

"I doubt very much if he will," my father said.

"Mr. Podler said he saw someone with it," I reminded him.

"We all know about Mr. Podler," was my father's answer to that. "Someday I'll tell you about the ghosts he saw in City Hall."

"Don't you want a bike?" my mother asked.

Mike's question was the right one. "What happens if my old one turns up?" I asked.

"We'll worry about that if it happens," suggested my mom. "It's up to you. We can get one if you want."

"If I do get a new one, does that mean I have to stop looking for the old one?" I wanted to know.

"I don't see much point in looking," said my father. "But if you want to, there's no one saying you can't."

"Okay, I'll get one."

"I'll go with you," Mike said suddenly. "I need some radio parts."

It was eleven when my mother, Mike with his radio parts box, and I got into the car and drove to Mr. Bullen's junk yard a little way out of town.

My mother has always had a particular liking for Mr. Bullen, and since she likes junk, it's not hard to see why. The lot is something kind of hard to describe. It has just about everything in the world piled up in heaps, piled up so much that it's hard to find anything. There are some sections, such as shutters, or bathtubs, but aside from those, you just have to go looking and there are more hiding places there than anywhere else.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Standard RL.4.1**

**I can refer to the text when explaining explicit and inferred information.**

**1**  
DOK 1

Read the following excerpt from the text:

I just didn't feel like doing anything much for the rest of the day. Mike went out with his friends so I stayed up in my room and played, building a neat castle and fighting a war with the plastic knights my mother had gotten for me. I made one Merlin The Magician. That was Saturday.

Underline the detail from the excerpt that supports the inference that Chris felt sad and depressed after he lost his bike.

**2**  
DOK 1

Match each description to the character it describes.

DESCRIPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• may have seen someone with Chris's bike</li><li>• owns a disorganized junk yard</li></ul>

Mr. Podler: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Bullen: \_\_\_\_\_

3

DOK 2

### Part 1

Based on Chris's reaction in the text, which sentence **best** states how Chris feels about his parent's suggestion to get a new bike?

- a. He feels immediately excited and appreciative of their offer to get a new bike.
- b. He feels concerned and skeptical that the junk shop will even have a bike for him.
- c. He feels worried and preoccupied with only finding his lost bike.
- d. He feels angry and upset that his family will not help him find his lost bike.

### Part 2

Which detail from the text **best** supports your claim in Part 1?

- a. "Okay, I'll get one."
- b. "If I do get a new one, does that mean I have to stop looking for the old one?"
- c. "It has just about everything in the world piled up in heaps, piled up so much that it's hard to find anything."
- d. "Now when she or my father says that, that's not what they really mean."

4

DOK 2

Reread the following excerpt from the text:

"We'll worry about that if it happens," suggested my mom. "It's up to you. We can get one if you want."

Which character trait best describes Chris's mother?

- a. unconcerned
- b. discouraged
- c. sympathetic
- d. enthusiastic

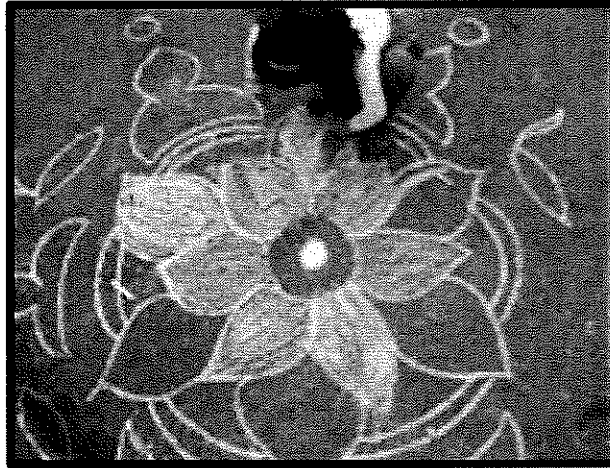




## “Just Like Home”

By Mathangi Sburamanian

Lexile Level: 840 | F&P: Level S | DRA: 40 (738 Words)



When the recess bell rang, Priya sighed and slowly hung up her smock. At her old school, she spent recess climbing the monkey bars and sharing secrets with her friends. Now she sat in the corner of the field and watched the other kids play without her.

The only thing Priya liked about her new school was art. They hadn't had art at her old school, but here art was a whole hour. The studio had the most wonderful things, like aluminum pie tins, plaster of Paris and India ink. During art, Priya forgot that she didn't have any friends at her new school. All she thought about was whatever she was working on.

As she cleared her table, Priya noticed a box of sidewalk chalk sitting on the counter by the window. She grabbed and stuffed it in her pockets. Then she took her usual place at the end of the recess line.

While she and her classmates filed through the halls and out into the yard, Priya thought about how she and her mother used to draw chalk patterns on the long driveway leading up to their old apartment building. The patterns were called rangoli, and they looked like stars and roses. Priya's mother said that the drawings were to welcome guests to their home. All the families in India, where Priya's family was from, did rangoli every morning, just like Priya and her mother. Their new apartment had barely any sidewalk in front of it, and there was no room for rangoli. Priya missed the early mornings she and her mother would spend drawing feathery, colorful patterns on the cement.

Priya walked over to the basketball court and sat on the hot pavement. She was glad to have something to do besides sit in her corner. She pulled the box out of her pocket and took out a bright red piece of chalk and began drawing the rangoli patterns she loved best. She drew flowers with huge, swirling petals and stars with eight points.

"That's pretty," a voice said.

She turned around and saw that Enrique, a boy in her class, was watching her.

"It's called rangoli," she said. "They do this in India, where my parents are from."

"You know what that reminds me of?" he asked, kneeling down beside her. "The floor of my grandmother's house in Mexico has tiles that have designs like that."

"What do you mean?" Priya asked.

"Hand me a piece of chalk," Enrique said. "I'll show you." Enrique sat down on the pavement and began to draw. He used green, orange, and yellow chalk to draw flowers that were more detailed than Priya's, but still had huge, curvy petals. Then he drew circles inside circles, and surrounded them with small diamonds. Priya kept drawing too, in between and around Enrique's designs.

"What are you guys doing?" a voice asked.

Priya and Enrique had been so absorbed in drawing that they hadn't noticed that their classmate Farah had been watching them.

"Hey," Farah said, sitting down beside them, "that looks like the rugs in my Uncle's house in Iran. Except on the rugs, the shapes are bigger, and aren't as curly."

"Show us," said Enrique, handing her a piece of chalk.

Farah took the chalk and began drawing. She drew shapes that were full of straight lines and bold colors. They were bigger than the shapes Priya and Enrique had drawn, and they overlapped each other in diagonals to form new shapes. She colored the drawings purple, dark blue, and white.

"Wow!" Ms. Lopez, Priya's teacher, said. "That's beautiful!"

Priya, Enrique and Farah stood up and looked at what they had done. The pavement was covered in bright colors and shapes: triangles, circles, squares and diamonds, all mixed together. Their classmates began to drift over to see what was happening.

"It looks like a universe, with lots of planets and stars," said Lily.

"It looks like a coral reef full of tropical fish," said Jasper.

"What do you think it looks like Priya?" said Enrique.

Priya looked at Enrique and Farah. Their knees, elbows, and fingers were covered in red, yellow, green and blue chalk dust. Priya smiled and said, "It looks like home."



**Standard RL.4.3**

**I can describe in depth the character, setting, or event drawing on details from the story**

**1**

DOK 1

Read the passage from the text. Then answer the prompt.

*The only thing Priya liked about her new school was art. They hadn't had art at her old school, but here art was a whole hour. The studio had the most wonderful things, like aluminum pie tins, plaster of Paris and India ink. During art, Priya forgot that she didn't have any friends at her new school. All she thought about was whatever she was working on.*

For Priya the art room was:

- a. A happy place to be herself
- b. Boring
- c. Full of supplies
- d. A place where she felt worried

**2**

DOK 1

What is the significance of the detail that Priya's new apartment had "barely any sidewalk in front of it"?

- a. Priya couldn't play outside.
- b. Priya wanted to have grass outside of the house.
- c. Without sidewalk, Priya is unable to do rangoli with her mom.
- d. Priya liked the designs that the sidewalk naturally made.

3

DOK 2

**Part 1:** Choose the best description of how Priya felt about the sidewalk when everyone was done drawing on it.

- a. Uninspired
- b. Confused
- c. Surprised
- d. Connected

**Part 2:** Choose the piece of evidence that best supports your answer from Part 1.

- a. Priya, Enrique and Farah stood up and looked at what they had done.
- b. Priya looked at Enrique and Farah. Their knees, elbows, and fingers were covered in red, yellow, green and blue chalk dust. Priya smiled and said, “It looks like home.”
- c. “Wow!” Ms. Lopez, Priya’s teacher, said. “That’s beautiful!”
- d. Priya and Enrique had been so absorbed in drawing that they hadn’t noticed that their classmate Farah had been watching them.

4

DOK 2

Read the paragraph from the passage. Then answer the prompt.

*Priya, Enrique and Farah stood up and looked at what they had done. The pavement was covered in bright colors and shapes: triangles, circles, squares and diamonds, all mixed together. Their classmates began to drift over to see what was happening.*

**Part 1:** Choose the best word to describe the where the students are coloring in this paragraph.

- a. Sidewalk
- b. Basketball Court
- c. Schoolyard
- d. Playground

**Part 2:** Explain why this is the best answer. Use details from the whole passage to explain your answer.

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5

DOK 3

In the graphic organizer below, select **three** details from the passage that describe Priya and add them to the column “Details that describe Priya.” In the column on the right labeled “What I infer about Priya is...”, explain what you infer about Priya from each detail.

<b>Details that describe the Priya.</b>	<b>What I infer about Priya is...</b>
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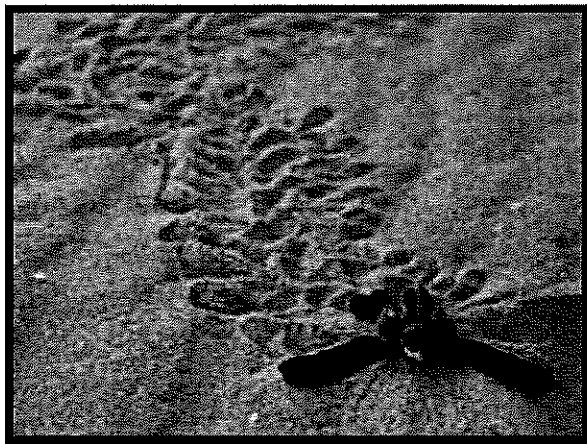
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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Excerpt from ***Sea Turtles***

By Gail Gibbons

Lexile Level: 710 | F&P: Level N&O | DRA: 30-34 (352 Words)



...Sea turtles travel, or migrate, to the place where they will have their young. Sometimes they migrate more than 1000 miles to nest. They do this every two to three years in the late spring and summer. They mate in warm seawater.

A few weeks later the female sea turtles return to the same stretch of beach where they were born. It is the only time they will ever leave their ocean home.

It's nesting time. At night the female sea turtle awkwardly drags herself far up onto the beach. She digs a shallow pit to rest in. With her flippers she scoops out a nesting home. It takes about one hour for her to lay about 100 soft leathery eggs. They look like small white balls. A group of eggs is called a clutch.

She covers them up with sand or dirt. While she is out of the water she is in danger. She can't see very well and moves very slowly. Enemies could attack her or her eggs. As fast as she can go, the sea turtle wriggles back to the sea where she will stay until she is ready to make another nest.

Often the nest eggs are in danger. Sometimes people or animals dig them up for food. In about two months the baby turtles begin to hatch. They use a sharp egg tooth to break their shells open.

Usually during the night they push themselves up through the sand and rush to the sea for protection. Even though it is dark, they know where the sea is. They move from land toward the sea because the sky appears brighter over it.

Once at sea they swim with the current and float in beds of seaweed to hide and protect themselves. They eat tiny plants and small animals called plankton. In about two weeks they lose their egg tooth. They migrate to where adult sea turtles live. Life in the sea is dangerous. Whales, sharks and fish often eat them. Only a few turtles survive to be adults but some can live to be over 100 years old.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Standard RI.4.10**

**I can analyze the main idea using supporting evidence from grade-level science texts.**

**1**  
DOK 1

Which title would be a good replacement title for the passage you just read?

- a. The Life Cycle of Sea Turtles
- b. A Day in the Life of a Sea Turtle
- c. Finding Sea Turtles on the Beach
- d. Sea Turtles: Fantastic Journey

**2**  
DOK 1

Place a checkmark indicating if the textual evidence supports the idea that turtles migrate to have their young.

<b>Textual Evidence</b>	<b>✓ Yes Supports the Idea</b>	<b>✓ No Does not Support the Idea</b>
“A few weeks later the female sea turtles return to the same stretch of beach where they were born.”		
“Life in the sea is dangerous. Whales, sharks and fish often eat them.”		
“As fast as she can go, the sea turtle wriggles back to the sea where she will stay until she is ready to make another nest.”		

3

DOK 2

A student is doing research on this topic: **Sea turtles have an amazing memory.** What details from the text would support this research topic?

List **three** supporting details.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4

DOK 2

**Part 1**

Fill in the missing blanks on the chart using the sentence bank to sequence the life cycle of a sea turtle.

- **Baby sea turtles hatch.**
- **They migrate or travel to where adult sea turtles live.**
- **Female sea turtles dig a shallow pit to lay her eggs.**
- **Sea turtles travel, or migrate, to the place where they will have their young.**

1)
2) Female sea turtles return to the same stretch of beach where they were born.
3)
4) She covers her eggs up with sand or dirt.
5)
6) Baby sea turtles rush to the sea for protection.
7)



**Part 2**

What would be the next logical event that would continue the life cycle of a sea turtle?

- a. Sea turtles live to be 100 years old, so the life cycle never begins again.
- b. Sea turtles become prey for sharks.
- c. The life cycle begins again, starting with a clutch.
- d. The life cycle begins again, starting with migration.

**5**  
DOK 3

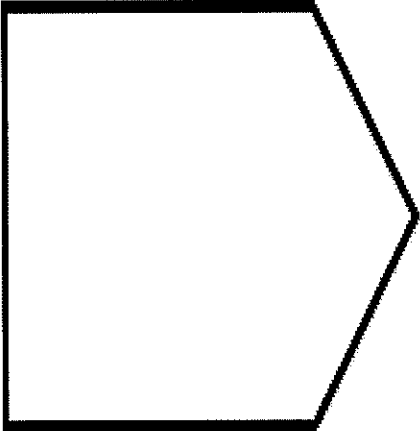
**Part 1**

Study the following pieces of text closely. Write down **one** trait in each trait box that describes the sea turtle. In the explanation column, explain why you chose the trait.

<b>Text</b>	<b>Trait</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
“A few weeks later the female sea turtles return to the same stretch of beach where they were born...At night the female sea turtle awkwardly drags herself far up onto the beach...With her flippers she scoops out a nesting home...”		
“...While she is out of the water she is in danger...Often the nest eggs are in danger...Usually during the night they push themselves up through the sand and rush to the sea for protection. Even though it is dark, they know where the sea is...”		

**Part 2**

Using the sea turtle traits and explanation you provided in Part 1, complete the main idea organizer to note **one** main idea and use supporting evidence to support your main idea.

Main Idea	Supporting Evidence
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Bonus

What is another animal that has a difficult life? Describe the circumstances that make this animal's life difficult. What are some ways people can help this animal survive?

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