

The **main idea** of a story tells what the story is mostly about. **Details** in a story tell more information about the main idea. Drawing conclusions means to make reasonable conclusions about events in a story using the information given.

Comprehension Worksheet

James Brown, the Truant

James Brown was ten years old. His parents sent him to school, but, instead of going to school, he was in the habit of playing truant.

Some of these boys found that James, had money, which his aunt had given him; and he was led by them to hire a boat, and to go with them upon the water. Little did James think of the danger into which he was running. Soon the wind began to blow, and none of them knew how to manage the boat.

For some time, they struggled against the wind and the tide. At last, they became so tired that they could row no longer. A large wave upset the boat, and they were all thrown into the water. Think of James Brown, the truant, at this time! He was far from home, known by no one. His parents were ignorant of his danger.



He was struggling in the water, on the point of being drowned. Some men, however, saw the boys, and went out to them in a boat. They reached them just in time to save them from a watery grave. They were taken into a house, where their clothes were dried. After a while, they were sent home to their parents. James was very sorry for his conduct, and he was never known to be guilty of the same thing again. He became regular at school, learned to attend to his books, and, above all, to obey his parents perfectly.

Questions:

1. What is the main idea of the story? Select one answer.
 - ☐ James Brown was ten years old.
 - ☐ James like to skipped school.
 - ☐ James had money to hire a boat.
2. How did he end up out on a boat upon the water? Select one answer.
 - ☐ James stole a boat.
 - ☐ James' friends had a boat.
 - ☐ James hired a boat.
3. What happened while the boys were out on the boat?
 - ☐ A large wave threw the boys overboard.
 - ☐ The boys shook the boat until they fell into the water.
 - ☐ The wind threw the boys overboard.
 - ☐ The boys almost drown.
4. Who help the drowning boys?

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5. What lesson did James learn?
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Think of an incident that happen and cause you much pain because you did not listen to your parents. In your notebook, write what you did and how you learned your lesson.