

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Date: _____

Story 5

Part 1 of 5

“The Spice Cabinet”

Part 1 of 5: Fold News

Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

“Paper airplanes is officially boring,” Cooper complained, crumpling a piece of lined paper into a ball. He raised it over his head like a basketball and scanned the room for Ms. Martinez, preparing to shoot.

“I’ve basically perfected the paper football,” added Rodgers. “I don’t even see the point in making another one.” He crumpled his paper to.

“I’m glad to hear that, Mr. Rodgers,” said Ms. Martinez, appearing behind the boys. “I think I’ve picked up about two hundred of your paper airplanes and footballs so far this year.” the teacher promptly plucked Cooper’s paper ball from his hand and placed it in the recycling bin.








“Come on, Ms. Martinez,” Cooper whined. “It’s fun to fold paper. Plus, *creativity*,” he added with a grin. “But we’ve run out of cool things to make.”

Ms. Martinez folded her arms and fought back a smile. Funny, friendly, and fair, she was one of Cooper’s and Rodgers’s favorite teachers.

“You boys would of loved the Spice Cabinet” she said, walking back to her desk.

“The *what?*” Rodgers called after her.

Key

-  - Spelling error
-  - Add punctuation
-  - Capitalize letter
-  - Remove word
-  - Wrong word
-  - Move word
-  - Make letter lower case

Checklist

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Questions

Make a prediction

What is the Spice Cabinet?

What clues from the story helped you make your prediction?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Date: _____

Story 5

Part 2 of 5

“The Spice Cabinet”

Part 2 of 5: Mrs. Rose’s Memory

Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

Cooper and Rodgers were dying to find out about the Spice Cabinet. Since Ms. Martinez refused to tell them anything, they went to the person who knew just about everything about Fairview Middle School — Mrs. Rose.

after school, Cooper and Rodgers found Mrs. Rose at her desk in the front office. They told the beloved secretary what was on their minds.








“The Spice Cabinet?” Mrs. Rose said, sounding surprised and delighted. “I haven’t thought about the Spice Cabinet in years.” Mrs. Rose gazed up at the ceiling, as if looking back in time. Cooper and Rodgers huddled around her.

“Years and years ago, Fairview Middle have a cooking class,” she began. “It took place in a kitchen classroom on the third floor. Students loved it. But one day, a class accidentally made a bad batch of corn muffins. Teachers and students got sick. After that, the school put an end to the cooking class. As far as I no, no one has been back to the old kitchen classroom since.”

Cooper and Rodgers stared at Mrs. Rose, transfixed. “But what was the Spice Cabinet?” Cooper asked.

“The Spice Cabinet was in the classroom,” Mrs. Rose said. “And it was the most popular place in the entire school.”

Key

-  - Spelling error
-  - Add punctuation
-  - Capitalize letter
-  - Remove word
-  - Wrong word
-  - Move word
-  - Make letter lower case

Checklist

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Question

Based on how it is used in the fifth paragraph, what does the word **transfixed** mean?

Name: _____

Date: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 5

Part 3 of 5

“The Spice Cabinet”

Part 3 of 5: The Legend of the Spice Cabinet

Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

“Way in the back of the kitchen classroom was a cabinet for spices,” Mrs. Rose continued. “Back before cell phones and the internet, students would right each other notes. They couldn’t always find their friends during the school day, so students would put the notes in the Spice Cabinet. You would go to the Spice cabinet between classes to drop off a note for a friend or to pick one up. Kids would fold up their notes in all sorts of creative ways. They would know who the note was for based on how it was folded. Teachers didn’t know about it. Well, a few did,” she added with a smile.

“So, the Spice Cabinet are still there?” asked Rodgers.

“I’m sure it is,” said Mrs. Rose. “No one has been in that old classroom for at least twenty years. I bet that cabinet is filled with handwritten notes from years ago, all folded in funny ways.”

Cooper and Rodgers looked at each other. Before them was the an adventure to rediscover a forgotten legend of Fairview Middle. Plus, they could find new ways to fold paper.








The boys thanked Mrs. Rose and raced up too the third floor.

BONUS ACTIVITY

Mrs. Rose says the Spice Cabinet was filled with notes folded in all sorts of different ways.

When you are finished with Part 3, fold this paper up like a note. Make the most creative folded paper creation you can! (Ask your teacher first!)

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Checklist

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2.
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Question

Why had the the Spice Cabinet been such a popular place to visit during the school day?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Date: _____

Story 5

Part 4 of 5

“The Spice Cabinet”

Part 4 of 5: Cooper’s Discovery

Cooper and Rodgers walked three full laps around the third floor, searching for the classroom forgotten. Finally, Cooper noticed a door he had always assumed was a closet. He peeled off the plastic anti-bullying poster on the door. Neat, black characters spelled *Room 310: Home Economics*.

The boys cracked open the squeaky door and snuck inside. The smell of mildew and old books flooded their noses. The massive room before them was made up of many miniature kitchen stations, each complete with cabinets, a stove, and a sink. Cooper and Rodgers walked slowly to the back, dragging their fingers along the dusty countertops. Once in the back, they found a cabinet marked *Spices*.

Inside the cabinet sat hundreds of dingy, plastic spice bottles. Amidst the bottles were countless folded pieces of paper. The long-lost notes were folded in ways the boys had never seen — squares, boats, cones, twists, circles, and pentagons. Cooper unfolded a yellow pentagon and scanned the neat, bubbly handwriting. One sentence caught his eye:

“I can’t believe Mr Nitman are making us do two reports this week...”

At the bottom, the note was signed:

“Your best friend, Melissa Marcella Martinez”








Cooper showed Rodgers. “Could it be...” Rodgers whispered.

Just then, the classroom door swung open, filling the room with light. Principal Mellon stood in the doorway.

Directions

1. Read the story
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Checklist

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2.
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Question

What details from this part of the story help establish the setting of the forgotten kitchen classroom?

Name: _____

Date: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 5

Part 5 of 5

“The Spice Cabinet”

Part 5 of 5: Water Mellon

Principal Mellon walked through the kitchen classroom toward Rodgers and Cooper. He didn't stop to inspect the dusty countertops like Rodgers and Cooper had done. His eyes were fixed on the boys and the open cabinet.

When he arrived, Principal Mellon reached past the Boys and started examining the contents of the cabinet. He poked around and rearranged dusty bottles. Finally, he pulled out an ancient white paper boat and unfolded it. He began reading aloud.

“Principal Devers said I cant bring in my Atari on the last day of school. I hate this place. Arcade later. Meet at the bike rack. From, Water Mellon”

“Um, sir,” Cooper said after a minute of silence. “Are you Water Mellon?”

“Back in 1984, Cooper,” the principal replied, “I was indeed Water Mellon.”

“And Melissa Marcella Martinez. Are that Ms Martinez?” Rodgers asked, showing Mellon the yellow note.

Principal Mellon smiled. “You see, boys? Teachers were kids once to.”

“Sir, the school would love to know about the Spice Cabinet,” said Cooper.

“Oh no,” Mellon said. “Then everyone would want cooking class to return. We can't afford another Corn Muffin Incident of 1997.”

When they left, Cooper placed the plastic anti-bullying poster on the door over *Room 310: Home Economics*, entombing the Spice Cabinet once more.

Directions

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Question

How do you think their adventure with the Spice Cabinet might change Cooper and Rodgers?