

Fresh Fruit for Christmas

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Victoria didn't know what to send to her grandma and grandpa for Christmas. It was always hard to buy a good Christmas present for them. She knew they never complained, but they didn't need much, and it was hard for her to be creative every year.



One year, she sent a big wooden elephant, because they liked elephants. It sat on the counter for a year, but then it disappeared, probably into a closet somewhere. Another year, she made handmade soaps with nice smells, but they probably weren't any better than store-bought soaps. Last year, she sent lots of nice pictures of herself in frames, but grandma and grandpa's house was small, and they couldn't hang up very many. It was hard to shop for them.

This year, she decided on fruit. She lived where it was warm and there was lots of nice fruit. Her grandparents lived up north, where it was colder and they didn't get fresh fruit all year, or at least not oranges and grapefruit. Fresh fruit was healthy for her grandparents, too. It seemed thoughtful and delicious!

Victoria went to a fruit stand and sampled the red navel oranges, and really liked them. She bought a $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel. They were so tasty and juicy. Then she tried three kinds of grapefruit. The white ones were sour. The ruby ones were great. The star grapefruit were interesting, too. She got a $\frac{1}{4}$ bushel of the ruby grapefruit. The tangerines were also good, but she thought they could get them up north more easily than the other stuff, so she only got a small bag.

Victoria carefully packed the fruit in a box with tissue paper to keep them safe and dry in case one got smashed and its juice got everywhere. Then she wrote the address on the box and mailed it from the store. She felt good about her purchases. This year would be great.

A few days later, she got a phone call thanking her for the lovely fruit. They said it was a healthy, tasty, and very thoughtful gift. Victoria had never felt so good before. Giving really was a nice thing.

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is Victoria trying to decide?
 - A. what to wear
 - B. what to buy
 - C. what to read
 - D. what to eat

2. Which of these is NOT something Victoria gave to her grandparents as a present?
 - A. candy
 - B. an elephant decoration
 - C. pictures
 - D. soaps

3. What does Victoria decide on for this year's gift?
 - A. cookies
 - B. a vacation trip
 - C. fresh fruit
 - D. money

4. What kind of fruit does Victoria NOT buy for the gift box?
 - A. tangerines
 - B. ruby grapefruit
 - C. navel oranges
 - D. lemons

5. How do Victoria's grandparents react to the gift?
 - A. They don't say anything.
 - B. They call and are very pleased.
 - C. They gave it away.
 - D. They ate them and got stomach aches.

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