

# A Bushel of Peaches

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Danny stared at the wooden bushel basket filled with juicy peaches. Peaches were not his favorite fruit, but they were certainly up there. They were a great summer treat, better than watermelon even.

His dad saw what he was looking at and shook his head. "No, that's too many. Let's get a little basket." He pointed to a sad little crate with maybe six peaches in it. That one was only \$5.



Maybe his dad was right. Maybe \$35 for a whole bushel of peaches was a lot of money, but there had to be 60 or more peaches in the basket. "I could eat them." Danny announced, unmoving. If he walked away from the big basket, he wouldn't get it.

His dad laughed. "If you can name ten different ways to eat peaches, I'll buy them for you, but you'll have to help your mother clean and cook them."

Danny grinned. His dad had as much of a weakness for baked goods as he did. "Peach pie."

"Unimaginative, but that's one." Dad counted off on his fingers, lifting his pinky first.

"Peach cobbler. Peaches and cream. Sliced peaches over ice cream." Danny called out.

"Two, three, and four." Three more fingers came up, but dad didn't look worried. After all, that wasn't even halfway.

"Spiced peaches."

Dad frowned. "What are those?"

"Aunt Helen makes them. They're in jars with cinnamon and spices. We eat them at Christmas."

"Those *are* good." Dad replied, remembering them now. "That's five."

Danny thought for a moment. He wasn't done yet. "Peach tarts. Peach turnovers. Fresh peaches."

"Six, seven, and eight." Now dad was looking a little worried. They were nearly to ten.

"Peach crumble, which is sort of like apple crisp, but with peaches." Danny explained that one, anticipating that he'd be asked to anyway.

"That's close to cobbler, but that's number nine. Do you have a number ten in you?" Dad grinned.

Danny thought hard, worried that he'd run out of steam. Had he come so close only to fall short? "Peach smoothies with yogurt!" He called at last.

Dad sighed and got out his wallet. He made a big deal of it, but he was already smiling as he thought about all the goodies he'd get to eat. After all, \$35 for that many peaches was kind of a sweet deal.

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

1. What does Danny want to buy?
  - A. A small crate of peaches
  - B. A bushel of peaches
  - C. A case of peaches
  - D. A can of peaches
  
2. What does dad challenge Danny with?
  - A. finding recipes
  - B. eating all the peaches
  - C. thinking of 10 ways to use peaches
  - D. buying the peaches with his allowance
  
3. Which of the following is NOT one of Danny's suggestions?
  - A. peaches and cream
  - B. sliced peaches over ice cream
  - C. fresh peaches
  - D. peach donuts
  
4. What kind of peaches does Aunt Helen make?
  - A. spiced peaches
  - B. sliced peaches over ice cream
  - C. fresh peaches
  - D. peach donuts
  
5. How does Dad really feel about buying all the peaches?
  - A. sad to spend the money
  - B. reluctant to spend the money, but happy to get to eat the treats
  - C. happy to buy them
  - D. angry that Danny won the challenge

## A Bushel of Peaches – Answer Key

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