

# Dad's Day Off

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Kayla thought it was weird. Her dad was off for the day, but he didn't seem to be having fun. Whenever she had a day off, she liked to have fun.

When she had a day off, she would wake up late, but then she would have a good time. Usually, that meant having whatever she wanted for breakfast. Then she would play until lunch. She'd sneak in some TV time for certain. After lunch, she'd play outside, visit friends if they were home, and then play some video games. She'd also have time to read her favorite books, eat snacks, and do all kinds of things that were exciting.

Her dad, on the other hand, was doing none of these things. He got up at the normal time, had his coffee, and read the newspaper. It was pretty much like a work day for him. Then, he went to his office and worked on papers. That wasn't very exciting. After that, he had a sensible breakfast with not too much sugar or fat. Wow, that didn't sound tasty.

That would have been fine, but she expected him to cut loose and have fun after working all morning. Instead, he worked on a couple things around the house that needed fixing, like the leaky faucet in the bathroom, and the hole that needed patching in the laundry room where someone bumped the wall. It must be really boring to be an adult, she decided.



During his healthy lunch, her dad watched some TV, but it was some news and then some history program in black and white. Did he have fun after that? No, he took a short nap while reading one of his books, and then got up to do more paperwork in the office. What a poor guy!

That afternoon, he did some yard work, played with some tools in the garage, and then came in to clean up for dinner, which mom cooked for everyone. Spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread was everyone's favorite meal, even dad's. Things were looking up, so how would he finish the day?



He sat down to play a game with her and then watch a movie together. Maybe it wasn't so bad after all, Kayla decided. It was just that adults had different versions of fun on their days off than kids, but she didn't want to be a grownup any time soon.

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

1. Why was Kayla confused about her dad's day off?
  - A. He was having too much fun.
  - B. He was very busy.
  - C. He didn't seem to be having much fun.
  - D. He slept all day.
  
2. Which of these does Kayla NOT usually do on her days off?
  - A. eat breakfast
  - B. play games
  - C. visit friends
  - D. wake up early
  
3. What of these does dad do in the morning before breakfast?
  - A. fix a faucet
  - B. work in the office
  - C. patch a hole
  - D. take a nap
  
4. Which of these does dad do after lunch?
  - A. fix a faucet
  - B. work in the office
  - C. patch a hole
  - D. play in the garage
  
5. After dinner and some time together, how does Kayla feel about her dad's day off?
  - A. It was okay, but she doesn't want to grow up yet.
  - B. She wishes she was grown up, too.
  - C. She feels sorry for him.
  - D. She wants a job.

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