

# The Babysitter

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Wendy was dreaming of the day she could start babysitting. She was only 11 years old, but very responsible and loved children. Her mom said she would be a great babysitter, but not until she was at least 16 years old. Wendy thought that 16 was so far away. "You let me babysit Duke," said Wendy to her mom. "But Wendy, Duke is the neighbor's dog." "That is a big difference."

The next day, Wendy and her mom were at the grocery store and met one of their neighbors from down the street. Mrs. Olsen was saying she needed a reliable sitter for Saturday night. They needed to go to a party from Mr. Olsen's job. Mrs. Olsen asked Wendy's mom if she knew of someone that is responsible and available for Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Olsen had a 3 year old girl. Wendy's mom said, "I can't think of anyone." Wendy said, "How about me?" "I'm responsible and love little Molly." Wendy's mom said, "Oh I don't think so Wendy." "Remember I said you are too young." "I'm almost twelve," said Wendy. "Besides it's just three doors down from our house." "Please," begged Wendy. "Why not?" asked Mrs. Olsen. "Wendy knows Molly." "I think it would be great." "Okay," agreed Wendy's mom.

Saturday night came, and Wendy left for the Mrs. Olsen's house at 5:00 and babysat for five hours and loved it. Wendy's mom called her two times to check on her, and she wanted to see if everything was going well. Wendy said they drew pictures, read stories, and gave Molly a snack. What was even better was Wendy made \$15.00! Now Wendy is the steady babysitter for the Olsen family. Her good babysitting skills have given Wendy some new babysitting jobs around the neighborhood. "I think when I get older, I would like to work in a daycare center," said Wendy. "Then I can be with children all day long."



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

1. How old is Wendy?
  - A. 10
  - B. 11
  - C. 12
  - D. 13
  
2. Who is Duke?
  - A. The neighbor's little boy
  - B. The neighbor's cat
  - C. The neighbor's dog
  - D. The neighbor's hamster
  
3. Where were Wendy and her mom when they saw Mrs. Olsen?
  - A. At the park
  - B. At the school
  - C. At the library
  - D. At the grocery store
  
4. What is the Olsen's daughter's name?
  - A. Molly
  - B. Mary
  - C. Michelle
  - D. Mandy
  
5. How much money did Wendy make for babysitting?
  - A. \$10.00
  - B. \$20.00
  - C. \$15.00
  - D. \$25.00

## The Babysitter – Answer Key

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