

Happy Birthday, America

By: Deborah Lynn

It was July 4th, Independence Day, and Jeremiah was so excited he wanted to scream, but he didn't. Jeremiah was a Cub Scout now and he needed to act more grown up. He was so excited because today he was marching in his very first parade. They marched right behind the High School Band, which played God Bless America and



America the Beautiful. Behind them were the Girl Scouts and then came the clowns. There were floats, cars and fire trucks and the last ones in the parade were the horses. It was all so exciting, and Jeremiah got to throw candy to all the children who were watching the parade.

After the parade, Jeremiah helped the Scouts in the neighborhood to line all the streets with American flags. He loved the flag. It made him feel proud and gushy inside. It was his flag, and many had fought and died for it! Now that he was a Scout, he could even salute it. He put up the flag, took a step back and gave a salute to “Old Glory”.

The rest of the afternoon was spent at the park with his family. They ate corn dogs, cotton candy and many other fun foods. Jeremiah did some wall climbing with friends and rode on rides at the fair. When it got dark, Jeremiah, his family and the rest of the people in town sat down to watch the amazing fireworks light up the sky! It was an amazing night...a wonderful night to say Happy Birthday to America!

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

1. Why was Jeremiah so excited?
 - A. He was going swimming.
 - B. He was marching in a parade.
 - C. He was spending the night with a friend.
 - D. He was going to the fair.
2. Why did Jeremiah think he needed to act more grown up?
 - A. Because he was a Cub Scout.
 - B. Because he had a Birthday.
 - C. Because his mom told him to.
 - D. Because he wanted people to think he was grown up.
3. What did Jeremiah do in the Parade?
 - A. He played a trumpet.
 - B. He carried a flag.
 - C. He threw candy to children.
 - D. He rode on a float.
4. What did Jeremiah do after he put up the flag?
 - A. He put up some more.
 - B. He sang a song.
 - C. He said, "Happy Birthday"!
 - D. He saluted the flag.
5. What did Jeremiah see that night in the sky?
 - A. Fireworks
 - B. Birds
 - C. Airplanes
 - D. The moon

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ANSWER KEY

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