

Peanut

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

"Peanut?" Came a voice from another room. That was grandma.

"Yes, dear?" Grandpa replied.

"Dinner time!" Grandma called back again.

Drew looked at his grandfather as they walked to the kitchen. Grandpa didn't look like a peanut. He didn't smell like a peanut, either. When they sat down at the table for mashed potatoes, roast beef, and creamed corn, Drew still couldn't get his grandfather's nickname out of his mind. His grandmother noticed it, too.

"Why are you staring at him, Drew? Does he have something on his face?"

"Yeah, like a nose?" Grandpa joked.

"Why do they call you Peanut?" Drew asked. He'd never really thought about it before now.

Grandpa laughed. "When I was a boy, I really liked peanuts. I was always eating them. I ate them so much that my father used to say I'd turn into a peanut."

"That's it?" Drew frowned. It was something of a letdown.

"Are you disappointed? It's a simple story."

"Do you have a nickname, too, Grandma?" Drew wondered.

Grandma shook her head. "Not since I was a little girl, and even then I was only 'rug rat' or other silly little names."

Drew ate quietly for a few minutes, thinking. "I wish I had a nickname."

"What's your favorite food?" Grandpa asked.

"Pizza."

"That's not a good nickname." Grandma told him.

Grandpa tried again. "What's your favorite sport?"

"Baseball."

"Which team?"

"The Detroit Tigers." Drew answered.

"How about Sparky? He used to be their coach years ago. It's a fun nickname."

Drew grinned. "Sparky sounds fun."

"Alright, Sparky, do you want more mashed potatoes?"

"Sure thing, Peanut."



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

1. What is grandpa's nickname?
 - A. Pizza
 - B. Peanut
 - C. Pickle
 - D. Pepper

2. Why does grandpa have that nickname?
 - A. He has a peanut allergy.
 - B. He hates peanuts.
 - C. He ate lots of peanuts as a kid.
 - D. He wears a peanut costume.

3. Does Grandma have a nickname, too?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

4. What does Drew want?
 - A. Dessert
 - B. Soda for dinner
 - C. Money
 - D. A nickname

5. How does Drew feel about his new nickname at the end of the story?
 - A. He's not sure.
 - B. He likes it.
 - C. He hates it.
 - D. He thinks it's silly.

Peanut – Answer Key

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