

## Saving the Worms

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

One day Mike and his friend Jack were thinking about going fishing at the lake. Mike was excited and said to Jack, "We are going to need to dig some worms to put on our fishing poles." "Why can't we use the worms that are not real?" asked Jack. "Real worms work better to get the fish to go on your fishing pole," said Mike.

All night Jack was not too happy about digging up the worms in his backyard. You see, Jack loved worms and had loved to watch them inch their way across his yard. He even used worms to scare his little sister, Becky. The best part was they felt so slimy.

Jack was afraid to tell Mike that he really loved worms, and that he did not want to dig them up to put them on a fishing pole. He felt sorry for the worms and wanted them to live as long as they could. Jack thought to himself, *would Mike make fun of me for not using the live worms for fishing?* Jack's Dad had some fake worms in the garage, and Jack went inside to ask him if he could use them. "Sure," said Dad. "Help yourself."

The next day Mike came over early to Jack's house ready to go fishing. "Did you dig the worms?" asked Mike. Jack said, "No, but I have fake worms for us to use." "Fake worms!" cried Mike. "We won't catch any fish with fake worms." "Why didn't you dig them up?" asked Mike. Jack decided to tell Mike the truth. "I don't want to see them eaten up by the fish." "I want them to live."

Mike was surprised that Jack cared so much about worms. "OK, ok", he said. "We will just have to see how lucky we are with fake worms." The boys were very lucky, because they each caught three fish that day at the lake. "I guess fake worms work just as well as real worms." said Mike. "Yes", agreed Jack. "Thanks, Mike, you are a real friend."



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

1. Who are the two boys in the story?
  - A. Todd and Jack
  - B. Bill and Mike
  - C. Mike and Jack
  - D. Justin and Joe
  
2. What were the boys planning on doing?
  - A. Going fishing at the lake
  - B. Going to the park
  - C. Going to the ball game
  - D. Going to the movies
  
3. How would you describe Jack in **paragraph 2**?
  - A. Mean
  - B. Unhappy
  - C. Happy
  - D. Bored
  
4. Where were the fake worms kept?
  - A. In the basement
  - B. On the porch
  - C. In the garage
  - D. None of the above
  
5. How many fish did the boys catch altogether?
  - A. Two
  - B. Four
  - C. Five
  - D. Six

## Saving the Worms – Answer Key

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