

The School Play

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

The end of the school year was coming quickly. Rick was so excited because it was time for the school play tryouts. This year's play was called *Mystery at the Lighthouse*. Rick was hoping to get the lead part of Joe who lives at the lighthouse. Joe tries to solve the mystery of the lights that go on and off by themselves.

After school, all those who wanted to try out for the play met in the gym at 3:30. Rick and his friend, Kevin, sat and waited for their turn to read for the play. The next day the parts were posted on the wall outside of the gym. Kevin got a part in the play. He was going to be one of the men who helped out at the lighthouse. But, Rick did not see his name. He felt funny inside. Rick was sure he would get the part. "I can't understand why I'm not in the play," said Rick to his Mom. "Rick, it just means that someone was a little better than you." "You shouldn't give up just because of this one time." "Look at all the other things you're good at," said Mom. "You're great with art and drawing and a super soccer player." "I guess," said Rick as he went to his room.

The next day at school Mr. Carter, the art teacher, asked Rick if he would be interested in doing some drawing and painting for the play. "I know how good you are with art," said Mr. Carter. "We sure could use the help drawing with the different scenes in the play." "Really?" asked Rick. "You want me to help draw for the play?" "I sure do," said Mr. Carter. Rick was so happy about being part of the play after all. Mom said, "See, Mr. Carter knows how good you are in art." Rick stayed after school each day for the next week and drew a big lighthouse and painted it. He also drew some boats in the water and painted those too. He was so excited the night of the play. He watched from the side of the stage as his friend, Kevin, said his part of the play. At the end of the show, Mr. Carter called all the students onto the stage that helped with the artwork, lights, and moving things around on stage. Rick felt proud of his work. He thought, *I think I like doing the artwork better. It was so much fun!*



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

1. What time of the year was it in the story?
 - A. Beginning of school
 - B. Christmas
 - C. Spring Break
 - D. End of school

2. Where did Rick go to try out for the play?
 - A. The gym
 - B. The cafeteria
 - C. His classroom
 - D. The library

3. Why did Rick feel funny?
 - A. He didn't get a part in the play.
 - B. He ate too much candy.
 - C. He had a cold.
 - D. None of the above

4. What did Rick do to help with the play?
 - A. He moved furniture.
 - B. He drew and painted pictures.
 - C. He worked the lights.
 - D. He handed out programs.

5. How would you describe Rick at the end of the story?
 - A. Mad
 - B. Sad
 - C. Proud
 - D. Tired

The School Play – Answer Key

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