

# Climbing

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Oliver was a very young boy who liked to climb. He'd just realized it. He'd always just crawled or walked around, but then, quite by accident, he'd gotten up onto the sofa. It was exciting!

Why had he always been tied to the ground? There were so many fun things to climb up and over. The dog was his second attempt. Rover was warm and fuzzy to climb over, but the dog didn't like it. That chair certainly looked like fun to climb.

Up he went. Why was everyone frowning? Maybe they wanted him to climb something else? Grandpa's recliner looked like fun, too. Up he went again. Still, people didn't seem happy, and they put him on the floor.

Next he tried the kitchen chairs. He found he could crawl from the top of one to the next. That really got his family talking. They put him back on the floor again.

Maybe they thought these were too easy? That bookshelf looked challenging. He pulled himself up onto the first shelf, and then onto the second. His family watched in horror as he reached for the third one. He found himself on the floor yet again!

What was going on? Wasn't he supposed to be congratulated and encouraged? Shouldn't these new talents be put to use? Instead, they kept taking him and putting him back on the ground.

Safe, they said. It was safe on the ground. Maybe that's because he wasn't even two years old yet. Maybe next year he'd try the kitchen counter!



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

1. What does Oliver like to do?
  - A. eat
  - B. sleep
  - C. play
  - D. climb
  
2. What does Oliver climb first?
  - A. the dog
  - B. the chair
  - C. the recliner
  - D. the sofa
  
3. What does Oliver climb second?
  - A. the dog
  - B. the chair
  - C. the table
  - D. the sofa
  
4. What is the last thing Oliver climbs?
  - A. the counter
  - B. the lamp post
  - C. the bookshelf
  - D. the sofa
  
5. Why don't people like Oliver to climb?
  - A. He's too good at it.
  - B. He's just a baby.
  - C. He's always falling.
  - D. He's not very fast.

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