

Jumping on the Sofa

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Oliver looked around to see if anyone was looking. He smiled. No one was. That meant it was time! He climbed up on the sofa and began jumping around. It was hard not to laugh. It was so much fun!

He climbed onto the arms of the sofa. From there, he could perch and then roll forward. Giggling, he sat down and folded his knees to his chest. Then he pushed off with his feet and tumbled forward, rolling like a ball.

That was way fun! He did it again, but this time going the opposite way from the other side of the sofa. He sat on the sofa then, breathing hard. What should he do next? He leaned back. Suddenly, he had an idea. He could use the back of the sofa.

Quick as a whip, he jumped back up on the arm of the chair and then stepped up onto the back of the sofa. It was hard to stand up there without falling over, so he kept one hand on the wall to balance. He tiptoed along the back of the sofa, and then jumped down onto the seats. It was like jumping off the roof. It was so far down! It felt dangerous, but fun. It was so fun he had to do it again.

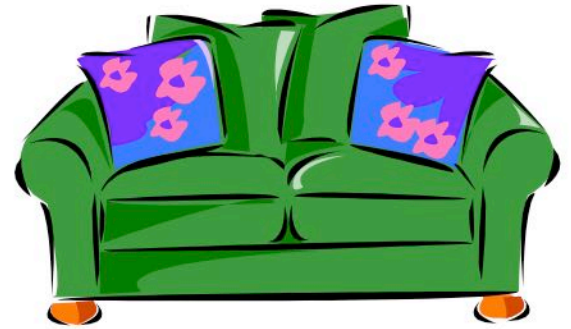
This time when he climbed back up, he decided to jump down differently. He dropped with his body flat, landing on his back instead of his feet. He hit like it was a trampoline, bouncing up as the springs in the sofa strained.

Oliver found himself in the air once more, and then he crashed onto the floor. There was a flash of pain as he landed strangely on his arm, and then the pain hit him. He cried out, wailing as he held his arm.

His father came running into the room and saw him sitting on the floor holding his arm. "You were jumping on the sofa again, weren't you?"

Oliver nodded. His father sighed and came to check out his arm. The pain was terrible!

A few hours later, he had a cast on his arm, and he was sitting on the sofa once more. This time he was sitting nicely. He'd learned his lesson. There would be no more jumping on the sofa.



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

1. What does Oliver like to do?
 - A. sleep
 - B. use a trampoline
 - C. jump on the sofa
 - D. jump on his bed

2. Why does Oliver look around before he starts playing on the sofa?
 - A. He knows it is wrong.
 - B. He wants people to watch him.
 - C. He is shy.
 - D. None of the above.

3. How does Oliver feel about jumping on the sofa in the beginning of the story?
 - A. It's boring.
 - B. It's okay.
 - C. It's great!
 - D. It's silly.

4. What happens the second time Oliver jumps off the back of the sofa?
 - A. He bounces really high
 - B. He has lots of fun
 - C. He makes his father laugh
 - D. He falls and hurts his arm

5. YES OR NO: Do you think Oliver learned his lesson?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

Jumping on the Sofa – Answer Key

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 - B. No