

# Opening Presents

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Tammy was so excited. It was Christmas morning, and her family was gathered around the tree. There were stacks of colorful boxes, all decorated with bows, ribbons, and a rainbow of paper colors. Some were shaped like rectangles, while others were squarer. A few were round or oddly-shaped. Some rattled or tinkled when shook gently, but they were all very pretty and very interesting.



She helped sort them out: one for dad, and one for mom, one for her, and another for mom... There were so many packages. Eventually there were three big piles, and a little pile for Ernie, the dog.

They took turns opening them. Mom went first, always. She smiled shyly as she opened a package, which had a beautiful red sweater in it. She said thank you and held it up against herself. It looked good. Dad went next, getting some new fishing supplies. He grinned widely, because he loved to fish.



Tammy opened her first one, too. She got the CD she'd been dying to listen to. It was so hard not to run up to her room and start listening. Yet, there were more packages to open, so she'd wait. She started humming her favorite tune while she read the back of the CD.

They all took more turns after that. Mom got a necklace, an apron, a book she'd wanted to read, and some perfume. Dad got some tools for the garage, a computer program, a watch, and a new necktie. Tammy got a new outfit, some makeup, a new pair of shoes, and some earrings. And what did Ernie the dog get? He got a chew bone and a stuffed squeaky doll. He loved them.

What did they all get? They had each other, some nice things, and a happy morning. It was a very good day, and a great time to be together.

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

1. What is this story mostly about?
  - A. getting stuff you don't want
  - B. opening presents
  - C. giving things away
  - D. Christmas
  
2. Who got a necklace?
  - A. Mom
  - B. Dad
  - C. Tammy
  - D. Ernie
  
3. Who got a computer program?
  - A. Mom
  - B. Dad
  - C. Tammy
  - D. Ernie
  
4. Who got a CD?
  - A. Mom
  - B. Dad
  - C. Tammy
  - D. Ernie
  
5. What was one of the reasons why Tammy was so happy to be with her family that day?
  - A. Tammy likes the Christmas lights.
  - B. Tammy ate a big breakfast.
  - C. Tammy is greedy, so she wanted stuff.
  - D. They all spent time together.

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