

The Kite Contest

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Lee loved kites. He was always looking to buy a new kite and had four already. He had a kite shaped like a dragon and one shaped like a diamond. His favorite kite, the one that looked like an airplane, got caught in a tree last fall and was torn. But he wanted to do more than just fly his fast kites around the park by himself. Lee decided this year he was going to take two of his kites and enter them into the kite contest the park was holding on Saturday. The first place prize was \$25.00.

Lee told his mom what he was planning to do on Saturday, and she thought it was a good idea. "My only thought is that I don't know how much wind will be blowing on Saturday," said his mom. "The weather will be very hot." "That's okay," said Lee. "I have a feeling it's going to be a good day, and I will win the contest."



Saturday came, and Lee was awake early. The contest started at 9:00, and he didn't want to be late. When he got to the park with two of his kites, he was surprised to see there were close to twenty- five or thirty kids there for the contest. *Wow*, he thought to himself, *I don't know if I'll have a chance*. Lee went to the sign-in table, and said he was entering two kites. He brought his red and white box kite, and the other was a smiling face kite. The contest began, and Lee was watching his box kite fly high into the air. The kite was up in the air for ten minutes, but suddenly it fell to the ground, and Lee was out of that competition. He then entered his smiling face kite. All of a sudden, he was next to a boy that had a homemade kite with old torn rags for its tail. His kite was flying close to Lee's. Suddenly it touched Lee's kite and moved higher above the smiling face kite. Lee knew he could have won if the boy's kite didn't touch his. But Lee felt sorry for the boy, and Lee let him get above his kite. The judge called the boy with the homemade kite the winner. Lee congratulated him and said, "That was a great kite you flew." The boy said he made the kite himself using some left over material his mom had and tied some old rags to make the tail. The boy was so happy he won the prize of \$25.00. He told Lee he was going to buy a real kite with the money. "If you ever want to fly kites with me, I'm usually at the park," said Lee. "Thanks," said the boy. "I come almost every Saturday." And with that, the two boys said goodbye and made plans to meet next Saturday.

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

1. How many kites did Lee have at the beginning of the story?
 - A. Six
 - B. Two
 - C. Four
 - D. One
2. What was the prize for the kite contest?
 - A. Twenty-five dollars
 - B. Ten dollars
 - C. A movie ticket
 - D. None of the above
3. What happened to the kite that was shaped like an airplane?
 - A. Lee loaned it to his friend.
 - B. It was torn in a tree.
 - C. The tail fell off.
 - D. Someone stole it from Lee's house.
4. Why did Lee let the other boy win the contest?
 - A. He felt sorry for him.
 - B. He was his best friend.
 - C. He didn't want to win.
 - D. None of the above
5. How did the boy feel at the end of the story?
 - A. Mad
 - B. Lonely
 - C. Tired
 - D. Happy

The Kite Contest – Answer Key

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