

The Lonely Goldfish

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Sam has a goldfish. He keeps his goldfish in a small bowl next to his bed. Sam is careful not to over feed his goldfish and makes sure he has clean water and is happy.



One day Sam said to his Mom, “I don’t think Tinker is very happy.” “Why do you say that?” asked Mom. Sam told his Mom that Tinker has no one to swim with and that he sometimes just sits behind his toy tree in his bowl. “Do you think Tinker would be happy to have another fish to swim with him?” asked his Mom. “Yes!” cried Sam. “That would be great!”

The next day, after Sam came home from school, he and his Mom went to the pet store to buy another goldfish friend for Tinker. The store had only three goldfish left. Sam could not decide which one he wanted to take home. He thought and thought but could not pick a friend for Tinker. Finally, Mom said to the man at the pet store, “We’ll take all three.” “Wow!” yelled Sam. “That would be great!” “Tinker will not be lonely anymore.”

Because Sam and his Mom bought three fish, they had to buy a bigger bowl so the fish would have plenty of room to swim, and they even bought another toy for the new family of fish. When Sam got home and put all the fish together in their new bowl, Tinker started swimming so fast. Sam knew Tinker was now a happy fish and no longer lonely. He spent the night thinking of three names for his new fish and watched them all get along while he sat on his bed. Sam was not lonely either!

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

1. Where did Sam keep his goldfish bowl?
 - A. In the kitchen
 - B. In the garage
 - C. In his bedroom
 - D. None of the above

2. What word best describes Tinker at the beginning of the story?
 - A. Happy
 - B. Lonely
 - C. Scared
 - D. None of the above

3. When did Sam and his Mom go to the pet store?
 - A. After dinner
 - B. After Sam cleaned his room
 - C. After school
 - D. None of the above

4. How many fish did Sam and his Mom buy?
 - A. One
 - B. Six
 - C. Five
 - D. Three

5. What did Tinker do when the new fish were with him?
 - A. Swam fast
 - B. Hid behind the toy in the bowl
 - C. Ate some food
 - D. None of the above

The Lonely Goldfish - Answer Key

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