

Why Do I Have a Cold?

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Yvonne did not feel well at all.

Her head ached so much her teeth hurt, too.

Her nose was full, but also dripping.

Her chest felt heavy and tired.

She coughed and green stuff came out.

She sneezed and her eyes watered.

Her throat was so sore it felt like raw meat.

She felt sweaty hot one minute and freezing cold the next.



“Why do I have a cold?” She whimpered. “Why am I so sick?”

Mom came and gave her medicine, and it did not taste good.

She did not feel better right away.

Although, later she did feel somewhat better.

Her headache started to go away.

Her chest and nose felt clearer.

Her throat pain eased so she could eat some hot soup.

She was still dead tired, though, so she slept.

When she woke up, she felt bad again.

All the symptoms had come back.

She took more medicine, ate more, and rested.

Yvonne did this for three days.

Then she really started to feel better.

“It sure is good to not have a cold.” She said with a smile.

“Get ready for school!” Mom called into her room.

Yvonne’s smile faded. “Uh-oh, makeup work.”

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

1. What is wrong with Yvonne?
 - A. She is sick.
 - B. She is tired.
 - C. She is faking being sick.
 - D. She is bored.
2. Which of these is NOT a symptom Yvonne has?
 - A. watery eyes
 - B. cough
 - C. sneezing
 - D. itching
3. What makes Yvonne feel a little better at first?
 - A. a song
 - B. rest
 - C. medicine
 - D. food
4. YES OR NO: Does the medicine cure her cold the first time?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
5. Why does Yvonne not feel happy after she gets better?
 - A. She wants to stay home.
 - B. She has lots of missed work at school.
 - C. She is too weak to go to school.
 - D. She still has no appetite.

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