

BISCUITS FOR THE TEACHER

BY HILTON AYREY

Stephen really liked his teacher Miss Thomas. He loved it when she smiled at him and thanked him for sitting up straight and he beamed when she said how neat his work was. He was always trying to please her. You can imagine how upset he was when she told the class one morning that she was leaving to go to another school. How could she do that?

He would have to give her something very special so that she would always remember him. His mother baked cakes for people on special occasions. He would make Miss Thomas some special biscuits. He would have to act quickly because tomorrow was her last day.

When he got home there was a note on the kitchen table from his mother. She was going to have to work late and wouldn't be home until way past his bedtime. Dad knew nothing about what happens in the kitchen so he wasn't going to be any help.

He knew all about making icing. He had helped his mother with this before, but making the biscuits was going to be a problem. He needed a shortcut. Mum always had a supply of biscuits from the supermarket in the pantry so he burrowed down to see what he could find.

At the very back of the pantry amongst all the fancy stuff, he found what he was looking for - some nice oaty biscuits. It would look like he had made them himself once he heaped on the chocolate icing. Miss Thomas loved chocolate.

An hour later he stepped back to admire his work. The biscuits looked awesome. He put them in a container and headed off to do his homework.

There were lots of other children around when Stephen arrived at school the next morning, just as he had planned. Miss Thomas went on and on about his biscuits, how yummy they looked, and Stephen felt very proud.

"And you made them all yourself...my word you are so special Stephen. I am going to miss you!"

That was music to his ears.

She reached into the container and chose a biscuit heaped with icing. "You know exactly what I like Stephen," she said as she closed her eyes in anticipation and took a big bite. But something was wrong! The look on her face changed from delight to worry and then horror as she gagged and rushed from the room. The half eaten biscuit lay upside down on the floor and it was only then that Stephen noticed the label moulded into the bottom - TUX DOG BISCUITS.

Miss Thomas would certainly remember him!

Notes on Story Structure

Characters

Setting

Problem

Feelings

Action

Outcome

Theme(s)

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ACTIVITIES

Junior Stories 1:5

REMEMBERING - What are the facts

1. Make a list (or draw pictures with labels) of the characters in the story. Write down words from the story that tell you something about them.

UNDERSTANDING - Show that you understand the story

2. Why was Stephen so upset when he found out Miss Thomas was leaving?
3. Draw a map of the settings showing where the action happened. Use labels.

APPLYING - Using what you know from the story

4. Make a poster for Miss Thomas's new pupils about how to make her happy.
Remember a poster should have an eye catching title, information, and drawings
5. Write a short poem or rap song about Stephen's mistake.

ANALYSING - Breaking down the story to show how it works

6.  You are looking through a window at the most important event in this story. Draw what you see. Explain what is happening. Give a reason why you think this is the most important event.
7. Make a **STORY WEB** showing all the following:
CHARACTERS, SETTING, PROBLEM, FEELINGS, ACTION, OUTCOME

CREATING - Coming up with new ideas

8. Design a going away present for your teacher so that he or she will **always** remember you.
Label your drawings or write descriptions to explain your interesting ideas

EVALUATING - Sorting out the good from the bad

9. Make a list of the good things (Yellow Hat thinking) and the bad things (Black Hat thinking) about trying to please the teacher.

Yellow Hat Thinking (Good)	Black Hat Thinking (Bad)

10. Give this story a rating out of 10 depending on how much you enjoyed it. Write down a reason for giving the rating you did.

10-----5-----1

This was a great story This story was OK I didn't like this story