

# **Busy Daddy**

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Katie wanted to play with her Dad, but he was always busy.

During the week, he worked long hours. When he came home, he showered and ate. If she tried to play with him, he was usually too tired. He just wanted to watch TV, read a book, or go to sleep.

On the weekends, Katie tried to play with her Dad, but he was busy then, too...

On Saturdays he got up early and cut the grass. This usually took two hours. He pruned the bushes. He cut the grass. He used the trimmer to cut the grass around the house. Then he used the blower to clean the sidewalk and driveway. It took a long time. Then he had to shower off.

By then, he was very hungry and tired. He ate and wanted to rest on the sofa and relax. It was his day off, he always said. Katie sat down next to him to talk, but he did not seem interested in what she had to say. He only wanted to watch football.

On Sundays, sometimes they went to church, if Dad got up early enough. It was his second day to rest. They often ate a nice lunch together as a family. Then he would work on the computer. Katie wasn't sure what he did, but it required a lot of numbers. It didn't look fun, and it made Dad grumpy.

Sunday afternoons usually meant more sofa time and more football. It made Katie sad. Dad was so busy and always so tired. She brought him coffee and smiled at him. He drank it and when he finished, he sat up with a not-so-tired smile and turned the TV off. Then he asked her, "What do you want to do, pumpkin?"

She said, knowing he'd like to do something that he really wanted to do, "How about fishing?"

He looked at her, almost surprised, and nodded. A big smile crossed his face. Now he didn't look tired. "Fishing it is."

Now she didn't really love fishing all that much, but she sure loved to see him smile, and she loved to spend time with him, so fishing wasn't bad. It was worth every moment.



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

1. What does Katie want?
  - A. money
  - B. to spend time with her dad
  - C. to go to the mall
  - D. to go shopping
  
2. Why doesn't Dad spend time with Katie during the week?
  - A. He works at nights and sleeps during the days.
  - B. He lives in a different house.
  - C. He is too busy bowling.
  - D. He is tired from work.
  
3. Why doesn't Dad spend time with Katie on Saturday?
  - A. He is tired from cutting the grass.
  - B. He has to go golfing.
  - C. He is taking a nap.
  - D. He hates playing.
  
4. Why doesn't Dad spend time with Katie on Sunday morning?
  - A. He is sleeping.
  - B. He is watching TV.
  - C. He is working on the computer.
  - D. He is doing more yard work.
  
5. Why does Katie suggest fishing as something to do with Dad?
  - A. She loves to fish.
  - B. She is hungry for fish.
  - C. She is trying to trick Dad into buying her a boat.
  - D. She knows that Dad likes fishing, so he won't mind spending a long time with her.

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