



Playtime

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Time:

Marks: **11 marks**

Comments:

Playtime



You are going to read about some of the things that the children at Green Park School did to change their playtimes and make them more fun.



The children put up a display in the entrance hall of their school to show visitors all the exciting changes that had been going on.

The Governors of our school gave us some money to spend on making the playground a more friendly place, where all the children can play happily.

They asked the whole school to decide together what they thought the best ideas would be for spending the money.

Practice questions

A What is the name of the school? Tick **one**.

Greenfield

☐

Green Park

☐

Newtown

☐

Oldfield

☐

B What was the money given to the children for?

Making our new playground

We asked all the children in our school to tell us what they thought about playtime.



Some children said that playtime was boring because there was nothing to do. They wanted some new things to play with and ideas for new games.



- 1 Why did some children think playtime was boring?

Tick **one**.

They were tired.

☐

It was cold.

☐

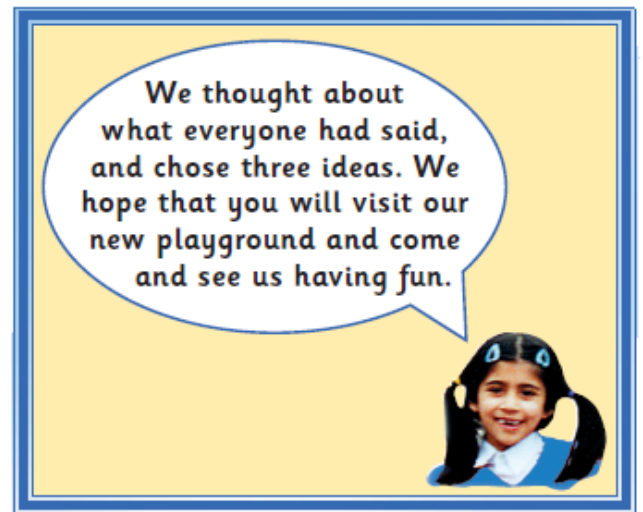
There was nothing to do.

☐

There were lots of games to play.

☐

- 2 What did the bored children want?



3 Why were children sometimes sad at playtime?

This is the Friendship Bench. When somebody sits on the Friendship Bench, other children know that they are feeling lonely and sad, and come over to be friendly. This is what Dan said about it.

When I first started at this school I didn't know anybody. At playtime I sat on the Friendship Bench and Sarah, Baz and Tanya came over and asked me if I wanted to join in their game.



Now playtimes are fun because I have some friends to play with. The Friendship Bench is a good idea because it helps you to get to know people quickly.

4 Why did some children sit on the Friendship Bench?

Tick **one**.

They were hungry.

☐

They were waiting for a bus.

☐

They were lonely.

☐

They were tired.

☐

5 Does Dan like the Friendship Bench?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Why?

We chose some equipment so that we could play new games.
There are balls, hoops, beanbags and long skipping ropes.



Mrs Wood taught us rhymes
for skipping. In this one,
we all say the rhyme....

We say all the months in the
year and each person has to
jump in when we say the
month that they were born in.
Skipping is good exercise, and
it's fun.

All in together now,
Never mind the weather now,
January, February, March,
April, May, June, July.....

6 What equipment did the children choose?

Tick **four**.

bats

☐

balls

☐

hoops

☐

skitters

☐

beanbags

☐

skipping
ropes

☐

7 In the skipping game, when do the children jump in?

We did not change all of the playground, because children still like to play games like 'Catch' and football.

The older children think the giant draughts board is the best thing and they are teaching the younger children how to play.

Draughts is good because you can play in big teams and it gets exciting.



Under the trees we have a quiet corner with seats and tables. We can sit here and read or talk to our friends. Sometimes we make up adventures, then go and play them.

8 What did the older children help the younger children to do?

Tick **one**.

to play draughts

☐

to put their coats on

☐

to tie their laces

☐

to learn to swim

☐

9 What can the children do in the quiet corner?

Give **two** things.

1 _____

2 _____

Think about **all** you have read about Green Park School.

10 Draw lines to match up the boxes to show where you would go.

The first one has been done for you.

to play catch	the Friendship Bench
if you were lonely	the old part of the playground
to play in a big team	under the trees
to sit and read	the draughts board

11 Do you think the children at Green Park School have better playtimes now?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Why?

Mark schemes

Q1.

Playtime

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| A | Green Park. | practice |
| B | To spend on making the playground a nicer place to be.
To make the playground a happier/more friendly place.
To make children happier at playtimes. | practice |
| 1 | There was nothing to do. | 1 |
| 2 | <p><i>Award 1 mark for answers indicating that the children wanted new things, or recognising that they wanted better ways to play.</i></p> <p>New things to play with.
Ideas for new games.</p> <p><i>Also accept:</i>
<i>To make the playground better/a better place.</i>
<i>To play a game.</i>
<i>New things.</i>
<i>Games • equipment • fun.</i></p> <p>Unacceptable: To make the school better [too vague]</p> | 1 |
| 3 | <p>They did not have anyone to play with.
They were lonely.
They were alone.
Because they did not have a friend/any friends.</p> | 1 |
| 4 | They were lonely. | 1 |
| 5 | <p><i>Award 1 mark for answers that describe the result of the Friendship Bench, for Dan or in general.</i></p> <p>Yes – it helped him to make friends.
– it helped him to have happy playtimes.
– he made some friends.
– he thinks it is a good idea.
– he knew he would get some friends.</p> <p>No – because it meant he was feeling sad when he went to sit on it.</p> <p><i>Also accept:</i>
Yes – <i>playtimes are fun.</i>
– <i>he has friends to play with.</i>
– <i>it helps you to get to know more people more quickly.</i></p> | 1 |
| 6 | <p><i>All four correct answers must be ticked (and no others).</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: left;"> bats
hoops ✓ </div> <div style="text-align: left;"> balls ✓✓
skittles </div> </div> | |

bean bags ✓ skipping ropes ✓

1

- 7 When they say the month they were born in.
They join in when they say their birthday month.
The month they were born in.
When they say their birthday.

1

- 8 To play draughts.

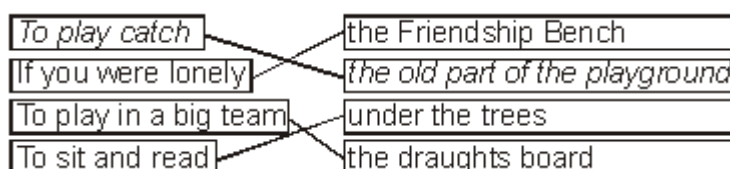
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- 9 Any two answers for 1 mark from:

Sit (under the trees).
Have a rest.
Read.
Talk (to friends).
Make up adventures.
Be quiet.
Answers need not be written on separate lines.

1

- 10 Award 1 mark for all parts correctly matched.



1

- 11 Award 1 mark for any sensible justification, related to the text which identifies the environmental or social improvements to the playground. The answer must make comparison between before and after the changes, though this may be implicit.

Yes – because they have learnt new games.
– because they are happier.
– there is a special place they can go if they need a friend.
– they have more to do to stop them being bored.
– because they have friends now.
– they can play draughts.
– they have a lot of things to play with.

Unacceptable: *imprecise answers and those that do not make any implied comparisons.*
Because they can play.
They had a new playground.
They all liked the playground.

1