Jelly

The Day the Lights Went Out

LITTLE READERS



Rain taps on the window.
Mia and Mom play a game
in the living room.



Mia moves her little piece
across the game board.
“Your turn, Mom!” she says.



Their puppy rests nearby.
His eyes are almost closed.
The room is warm and bright.



Mom rolls the dice.
Mia watches them stop.
Then Mom moves her piece.



Suddenly, the lights go out.

The room grows dim.

Mia looks up.



“What happened?”
she asks. The puppy
lifts his head.



Mom sits close to Mia.

"The power may be out,"

she says gently.



“We are together,”

Mom tells her.

“Let us find our lantern.”



Mom walks to the shelf.
She takes down
a battery lantern.



Click! Mom turns it on.
A warm light shines
across the room.



"There we are," Mom says.
Mia can see the game
and the puppy again.



The puppy comes closer.
He sniffs the lantern,
then sits beside Mia.



Mia looks out the window.

Rain falls on the path.

The sky is gray.



The house across the way
is dark, too.
“Their lights are out,” she says.



“Will the lights come back?”
Mia asks. She holds
the lantern handle.



"They should come back
when the power is fixed,"
Mom says.



They sit together
near the lantern.
The puppy lies at their feet.



Mia looks at the game.
"It is hard to see
the little pieces," she says.



Mom thinks for a moment.
"Would you like to hear
a story?" she asks.



Mia nods.

"A funny one, please!"

she says.



Mom begins her story.
"Once there was a duck
who wore a big blue hat."



“A hat for a duck?”
Mia asks. She leans close
to listen.



"Yes!" says Mom.
"The hat was so big
it covered his eyes."



The puppy gives a yawn.
Mia laughs. “Maybe he
likes the story, too!”



“What happened next?”

Mom asks Mia.

“You can add a part.”



Mia thinks. “The duck
bumped into a tree!”
she says.



Mom listens and smiles.
"Then what did he do?"
she asks.



“He took off the hat
and gave it to a cow!”
Mia says. They both giggle.



Outside, the rain slows.
Mia can hear drops
falling from the leaves.



She finds some paper
and her crayons.
"I will draw our duck."



Mom holds the lantern
while Mia draws.
The puppy rests nearby.



Mia adds a big blue hat
and a smiling cow.
“Here they are!” she says.



Just then, the lights
come back on.
The room is bright again.



Mia and Mom look up.

"The power is back!"

Mom says.



The puppy opens one eye.
He looks around the room,
then curls up again.



Mia smiles at Mom.
"I liked our story,"
she says.



They put the game pieces
back on the board.
“Shall we finish?” asks Mom.



Mia rolls the dice.
The puppy sleeps softly
beside the table.



“Thank you, Mom,”
Mia says. “The dark
did not last forever.”



Mom gives Mia a hug.
"We made a good story
while we waited," she says.



What are Mia and Mom doing when the lights go out?



How does Mom help Mia
see in the dim room?
What does she turn on?



What does Mia notice
outside the window?
Look at the picture.



Why do they stop
playing their game?
What does Mom suggest?



What animal is in

Mom's funny story?

What is it wearing?



How does Mia add
to the story?
Tell a friend.



What happens while
Mia draws a picture?
How does she feel?



What do Mia and Mom
do at the end?
Tell the story in order.



The End

