

Name: _____

Weathering the Storm

By Kelly Hashway



Sara stared out the window, watching the gusts of wind blow the trees until they looked like they'd tip over. She sighed, thinking about the birthday party she would've been having if the hurricane hadn't ruined her plans. She



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"It's not the same. My birthday is today, not next weekend."

Sara turned on the television. She wanted to watch anything other than the storm. But just about every station was talking about the hurricane. "I can't even watch my favorite shows. This hurricane is ruining everything."

Her mother sat down next to her. "The hurricane is ruining a lot. Look at that. Those people are trying to save their houses. Could you imagine if we lost our home?"

Sara looked at the images on the television screen. The storm did look bad. She knew she'd be really upset if her family lost their home. All her stuff would be gone forever, and where would they live?

"What's going to happen to all those people? Will they be okay?" Sara asked.

"Usually when there's a big storm like this, people raise money and send food and other supplies to the families who lost their homes. Some people even volunteer to help rebuild houses."

"What can I do?" Sara asked. Suddenly not getting to have her birthday party



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Sara nodded. "And maybe I could donate my birthday money. Those people are going to need it more than I do."

Her mother smiled and hugged her. "I'm really proud of you, Sara. Helping others is a great way to weather the storm."

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1. Which word best describes Sara at the beginning of the story?

- a. generous
- b. selfish
- c. thoughtful
- d. excited



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4. What did Sara want to do to help the victims of the storm?

5. How do you think Sara's mother felt when Sara was complaining about her birthday party being canceled? Explain.

6. Which word best describes Sara at the end of the story?

- a. generous
- b. cheerful
- c. selfish
- d. proud

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Match each vocabulary word from the story to the correct definition.



1. _____ gusts

a. wrecked



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5. _____ images

e. to give money or supplies

6. _____ volunteer

f. feeling upset and staying quiet

7. _____ rebuild

g. plans

8. _____ donate

h. to build again

Now try this: Find all of the vocabulary words in the story and highlight them.

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In the story, "Weathering the Storm," Sara's birthday is canceled because of a hurricane. When Sara realizes that many people will lose their homes in the hurricane, she donates her birthday money to help them.



Describe a natural disaster you've seen on television or heard about. Tell what



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who might be losing their homes.

6. Which word best describes Sara at the end of the story?

a. generous

c. selfish

b. cheerful

d. proud

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8. e. donate

h. to build again

Now try this: Find all of the vocabulary words in the story and highlight them.