Inference

Sometimes we draw conclusions based on the evidence we have. This is called inferencing.

Example: Mom normally has a snack waiting when you get home from school. Today, you walk into the house and you smell cookies baking. You can infer that you will be having cookies for snack.

Read each short passage and answer the questions that follow.

Our dog Sammy is afraid of thunderstorms. When he hears the thunder, he scratches at the door until someone lets him come into the house. Then, he curls up in a corner until the storm is over.

1. You just heard a crack of thunder. What will probably happen next?

2. Based on what you know, how does being in the house make Sammy feel?

Lisa was very nervous about her math test. She studied, but she was not sure that she did well. Today, Mr. Harp gave back the math tests. As he gave Lisa’s test back, he smiled at her. Lisa looked at her paper and a huge smile spread across her face.

3. Based on what you know, how did Lisa do on her math test?

I can’t wait for Dad to get home, but I know that even when he does, I will have to be patient. When he comes home, he takes his boots off outside. Then, he heads straight to the bathroom to change clothes and take a shower. After his shower, he carries his clothes to the washing machine, careful not to get any of the dirt on the floor. Now, it is time for us to play!

4. Describe the type of job that Dad has.

5. Give at least one detail to support your answer for number 4.

6. Why does the child have to be patient?
Answers Inference

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Example: Mom normally has a snack waiting when you get home from school. Today, you walk into the house and you smell cookies baking. You can infer that you will be having cookies for snack.

Read each short passage and answer the questions that follow.

Our dog Sammy is afraid of thunderstorms. When he hears the thunder, he scratches at the door until someone lets him come into the house. Then, he curls up in a corner until the storm is over.

1. You just heard a crack of thunder. What will probably happen next?
   Sam will probably scratch at the door.

2. Based on what you know, how does being in the house make Sammy feel?
   Safe.

Lisa was very nervous about her math test. She studied, but she was not sure that she did well. Today, Mr. Harp gave back the math tests. As he gave Lisa’s test back, he smiled at her. Lisa looked at her paper and a huge smile spread across her face.

3. Based on what you know, how did Lisa do on her math test?
   She did well.

I can’t wait for Dad to get home, but I know that even when he does, I will have to be patient. When he comes home, he takes his boots off outside. Then, he heads straight to the bathroom to change clothes and take a shower. After his shower, he carries his clothes to the washing machine, careful not to get any of the dirt on the floor. Now, it is time for us to play!

4. Describe the type of job that Dad has.
   He does something outdoors—getting dirty at work.

5. Give at least one detail to support your answer for number 4.
   He carries his clothes to the washing machine, careful not to get any of the dirt on the floor.

6. Why does the child have to be patient?
   He cannot play with dad until after dad’s cleanup.