



Unexpected Kindness

Grade 3

Name: _____

Read the story carefully. Then answer each question below in a full sentence.
Follow the ripple! One act of kindness causes another, and then another. Trace each step of the chain.

The Marigold Ripple



Leo loved to walk past Mrs. Gable's apartment window. She often sat there alone, and her window box was always empty. One sunny morning, Leo decided to do something. He carefully potted a bright marigold from his own garden and left it quietly on Mrs. Gable's doorstep, ringing the bell before he quickly hid.

Mrs. Gable found the cheerful plant and a small, unsigned note that read, "For a brighter day." Her heart felt warm. She spent the afternoon baking her famous chocolate chip cookies. Later, she took a plate to the new family, the Chens, who were still unpacking in the apartment next door. "Welcome to the building!" she said with a smile.

The Chen family was so touched by Mrs. Gable's kindness and the delicious cookies. They had felt a little overwhelmed with moving. When they saw a flyer for the neighbourhood park clean-up, they decided to volunteer. They wanted to help make their new community beautiful.

A week later, Leo walked past the sparkling clean park on his way to school. He saw new flowers planted and fresh paint on the benches. He smiled, feeling happy about his neighbourhood, never guessing that his little marigold had started it all.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Which of these BEST explains why Mrs. Gable baked cookies for the Chen family? Circle the correct answer.

A The Chen family asked her for cookies.



- B She always baked cookies for new neighbors.
- C She wanted to welcome them because Leo's plant made her feel happy.
- D The Chen family had helped her with something.

(2) Complete the sentence: Because Mrs. Gable felt cheered by the plant, she

_____.

(3) What was one effect of the Chen family receiving cookies from Mrs. Gable?

(4) Describe how Leo leaving the marigold led to Mrs. Gable baking cookies and then to the park being cleaned.

(5) What might have happened if Leo had NOT left the marigold for Mrs. Gable? Explain.



