

Kelly's Gym Class

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Kelly loves school, especially gym class. She is a very good student and enjoys reading and math. But, Kelly has a hard time in gym class. She is not good at jumping very far, she has trouble throwing a ball, and she cannot run really fast. Sometimes, the other kids in her gym class give her a hard time and make fun of her. So why would Kelly love gym class?

Her teacher, Mr. Burns, knows that Kelly has a hard time doing certain activities in his class. The reason Kelly enjoys going to gym class is because Mr. Burns always tells her to do her best. Even if she only runs for a few minutes, Mr. Burns says, "Good job, next time you will be able to go a little longer." Mr. Burns even put a small box on the gym floor so Kelly would be able to practice jumping over it. "Great job, Kelly!" "You get better every day!"

That night when Kelly finished dinner, she went to her room and placed some small boxes in a row and began practicing jumping over them. She was able to jump over three boxes! Kelly thought to herself, tomorrow in gym class I will be able to jump over those boxes. And sure enough, Kelly did jump over three boxes in class. The other kids started to see how well Kelly was doing and said to her, "Good job!"

It was Tuesday, and time for the weekly relay race in gym class. Kelly was scared that she would not be able to go very far, or some kids would laugh at her. But, when Mr. Burns said, "Ready, set, go," Kelly thought to herself, *I can do it, I can do it*. As Kelly ran around the track, she found herself moving closer and closer into first place! All of a sudden, she heard many cheers and kids yelling, "Go Kelly, you can do it!" That was all she needed to hear. Kelly ran around the track as fast as she could, and headed for the finish line. She made it! Kelly finished first! The kids clapped and cheered for her. Kelly felt so good and proud of herself. "Thank you Mr. Burns," said Kelly. "Kelly, you ran the race, not me." "Yes, but you always said I could do it."

After that day, Kelly tried her hardest at everything, and the kids no longer laughed or made fun of her. In fact, when the kids needed someone on their team for jumping or running, Kelly was the first person they picked! She will always remember Mr. Burns and the kind words he said to her. Thanks to Mr. Burns, Kelly had the confidence she needed to do anything!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Kelly is a good student in which subjects?
 - A. Math and science
 - B. Math and reading
 - C. Social studies and math
 - D. Spelling and science

2. What does Kelly have trouble with in gym class?
 - A. Running
 - B. Volleyball
 - C. Skipping rope
 - D. None of the above

3. How did Kelly practice jumping after dinner?
 - A. She jumped rope.
 - B. She practiced hopping on one foot.
 - C. She practiced jumping over boxes.
 - D. She read a book on jumping skills.

4. Why was Kelly scared before the relay race?
 - A. She was afraid she would fall.
 - B. She was afraid to be laughed at by the other kids.
 - C. She was afraid another kid would run into her.
 - D. None of the above

5. How would you describe Kelly at the end of the story?
 - A. Happy
 - B. Sad
 - C. Upset
 - D. None of the above

Kelly's Gym Class – Answer Key

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