

We Want a Pet

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Rachel and Renee are nine year old twins. However, they do not look identical. Rachel has brown hair and brown eyes, while Renee has blond hair and blue eyes. For the longest time, the twins were begging their mom to have a pet. Their choices for a pet were as different as they were.

This is where the problem began. Rachel would say, "A dog is a better pet than a hamster because you can teach a dog tricks and run in the park with him." Renee would say, "A hamster would make the best pet because we wouldn't have to walk the hamster, and we could sit and watch him run around on his wheel." Mom said they needed to sit down together and make a list of each pet they talked about, and how they would care for that pet. "A pet is a lot of responsibility," said Mom. "Someone has to make sure there is always food and water."



The girls agreed, and sat down that night to make their list. After school the next day, they went to Mr. Riley's Pet Shop and asked Mr. Riley to see some puppies and hamsters. The girls were going to have to spend the money they saved from birthdays and Christmas together to buy their pet. Mr. Riley showed them a cute brown beagle puppy and a white poodle. He also showed them a brown and white hamster. The girls brought the list they made the night before and asked Mr. Riley many questions on how to care for each pet. Finally, the girls said, "Mr. Riley, we have made our decision." "We will take that cute white bunny with the adorable pink nose!" Mr. Riley was so surprised. "How did you decide on a rabbit?" "We both like rabbits, and he looks so sad, and we know he is waiting for someone to take him and love him." "With both of us, he will get double the love!"

Mr. Riley got the rabbit, the cage, and some straw for them to make sure they had everything they would need to care for the rabbit. "Do you have a name picked out for him?" Rachel said, "We are going to call him "Double Trouble" because of us being twins." Mr. Riley laughed, and the girls carried Double Trouble to his new home where he would be taken good care of and given lots of love. They set up his cage in the garage, checked on him to be sure he was happy, and played with him often. Their dream of getting a pet had finally come true!

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

1. How old are the twins?
 - A. Nine years old
 - B. Five years old
 - C. Eight years old
 - D. Six years old

2. What did Rachel think would make a good pet?
 - A. A kitten
 - B. A turtle
 - C. A dog
 - D. A hamster

3. What happened after the girls came home from school?
 - A. They ate a snack.
 - B. They did their homework.
 - C. They went to the pet shop.
 - D. They played outside.

4. Why did Mr. Riley laugh in the story?
 - A. He thought the name of the rabbit was funny.
 - B. He was watching a funny show on TV.
 - C. A customer told him a joke.
 - D. None of the above

5. Where did the girls set up the cage for their rabbit?
 - A. In their bedroom
 - B. In the garage
 - C. On the back porch
 - D. On the side of the house

We Want a Pet – Answer Key

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