

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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239 words

# The Not-So Perfect Pitch

Ben and his best friend Owen were playing baseball outside. "Hey Owen," Ben shouted from across the driveway. "See if you can catch my fast pitch!"

Ben got into position. He lifted his leg slowly then pulled his arm back. He stepped forward and released the ball. The ball soared through the air and flew right by Owen's glove. *CRASH!* Ben's dad heard the crash and ran outside to find a huge hole in his car window. He turned to the boys for an explanation.

"Owen broke it!" Ben said pointing over at Owen.

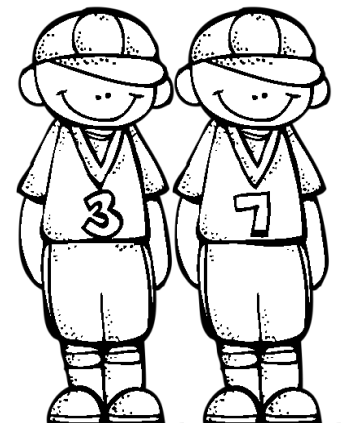
Owen was furious that Ben lied. He glared over at Ben and stormed off without saying goodbye.

That night, Ben's stomach flipped and flopped. He barely got any sleep and he couldn't eat his breakfast the next morning either. Things only got worse when he got to school and Owen refused to talk to him. Ben was miserable and he just wanted his friend back. Ben knew what he had to do to make things right.

After school, Ben raced home to tell his dad who *really* broke the window. He felt better telling the truth, but he still needed to apologize to Owen.

"I'm sorry I lied Owen," he said. "Will you forgive me?"

Owen *did* forgive him. Ben was so happy to have his friend back, even if it meant he had to mow the lawn all summer to pay for the window.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Answer the questions below using complete sentences. Highlight the part of the story where you found your answer (when appropriate).

1. What was Ben's problem in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How does Ben solve his problem? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What does the word "furious" mean in this story?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What will Ben have to do to pay for the window? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What lesson do you think Ben learned in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

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