

## **The Tea Party**

Ana dressed her two cats in baby clothes. She put the cats in doll chairs. Then she pulled the chairs up to the table. She had already dressed her dolls in their best dresses. Ana was almost ready for her tea party.

Her mom rolled her brother's wheelchair into her room. Ana was glad that her big brother Jim could come to her party. He had been very sick. He used to stay in bed all the time. Now he was well enough to sit up most of the day. Soon he would be so well he wouldn't want to come to her tea parties anymore.

All she needed now was water for her teapot. She ran past Jim's wheelchair to the bathroom, but she walked back very slowly because the teapot was filled to the brim. She poured the pretend tea into all the little cups.

Jim took his cup of tea and sat back to wait for the fun to begin. The dolls were quiet, but the cats were already restless. Fluffy, the gray cat, didn't want to wear a baby's hat over his ears. Puff, the white cat, looked sad. The baby's dress she was wearing was too tight around her neck.

Jim smiled at the funny looks on the cats' faces. He thought Fluffy and Puff should be used to wearing baby clothes because Ana dressed them in baby clothes all the time.

Fluffy started causing problems. He jumped on the tea table and started scratching at the baby hat on his head. Ana yelled, "Fluffy, stop that!" Fluffy couldn't get the hat off and ran around and around. Ana tried to keep the dishes on the table. Jim began to laugh to himself. He thought Ana's cats were funny.

Puff watched Fluffy run and turn. She meowed loudly and jumped on the table too. Ana tried to make them stop playing, but they just got more excited. All they wanted to do was play. Fluffy jumped on Puff. Puff jumped on Fluffy. Jim started laughing out loud.

The cats tried to start a game of chase, but their claws caught in their dresses. Water spilled everywhere. Dishes crashed to the floor. The cats jumped off the table and knocked all the dolls over. They had made a mess of the party. Jim laughed so hard he was crying.

Ana was mad. She had worked so hard to make a nice party. Now the tea party was an awful mess. The cats ran away to the backyard. Ana yelled, "Come back here!" She ran after them. She had to get the dresses off before the cats tore them apart.

Jim wiped the tears from his eyes. He loved Ana's tea parties. Laughing always made him feel better. He decided he would keep going to Ana's tea parties even after he got well.

**1. Why did Jim have to stay in a wheelchair?**

- A. He had been very sick.
- B. He got hurt in a car wreck.
- C. One of his legs was broken.

**2. What color was Fluffy?**

- A. Brown.
- B. Gray.
- C. White.

**3. Why did Puff look sad?**

- A. Jim was making fun of how she looked.
- B. She didn't like the way her dress looked.
- C. The dress was too tight around her neck.

**4. What happened when the cats tried to start a game of chase?**

- A. Their claws caught in their dresses.
- B. They tried to get their dresses off.
- C. They fell off the table onto the ground.

**5. Why did Ana walk slowly when she came back from the bathroom?**

- A. She didn't want to spill any water on Jim.
- B. She didn't want to spill the water in the teapot.
- C. She didn't want the teapot to slip from her hands.

**6. What made Jim laugh out loud?**

- A. Fluffy and Puff were playing on the table.
- B. He thought the cats' faces looked funny.
- C. Fluffy started to cause problems.

**7. What made Ana mad?**

- A. The cats ran away with the dresses, and she couldn't catch them.
- B. Jim laughed at all of the problems, and he didn't try to help.
- C. She wanted to have a nice party, but it turned out to be awful.

**8. Why did Jim think Puff and Fluffy should be used to wearing baby clothes?**

- A. They let Ana do anything she wanted to them.
- B. Ana had dressed them in baby clothes many times.
- C. They had always liked to be in baby clothes before.

**9. How did the story end?**

- A. Jim couldn't see because of the tears in his eyes.
- B. Jim decided it was good for him to laugh a lot.
- C. Jim decided to go to more of Ana's tea parties.

**10. How did Fluffy start to cause problems?**

- A. He jumped on the table and tried to get his hat off.
- B. He jumped on the table and ran round and round.
- C. He jumped on the table and made the dishes fall.

**11. Why did Ana want to get the dresses off the cats when they ran away?**

- A. The cats wouldn't be able to run with the dresses on.
- B. She was ready to stop the party and put things away.
- C. The cats would tear the dresses apart to get them off.

**12. What is this story mostly about?**

- A. How to get ready for a tea party.
- B. How a tea party turned out badly.
- C. How cats can have fun at a party.