

Star of the Week

Everyone had been Star of the Week in Mr. Johnson's class, except Pedro. Being Star of the Week was supposed to be really great. All the other second grade students felt so cool when it was their turn! They thought Star of the Week was the best thing all year.

The Star of the Week got to bring in photos, books, and toys or games to show to the class. Mr. Johnson's classroom even had a large shelf for the Star of the Week to display items. All week the rest of the class could look at the Star of the Week's stuff.

Pedro was excited to bring his special things to school. He had photos of his family back in Mexico. He had books in Spanish he knew how to read. He had the soccer ball his best friend Carlos had given him when he moved to the United States.

But Pedro was also scared to be Star of the Week. He thought the other kids would like his stuff, but he was afraid to talk. Mr. Johnson always asked the Stars of the Week to stand in front of the class and talk about what they brought in. Pedro was scared to speak in English to his classmates.

Pedro and his family had moved to Oregon in the middle of second grade. In Mexico, Pedro wasn't shy in class because he spoke Spanish. But in his new school he had to speak English. He worried that he sounded funny when he spoke English. And sometimes he felt stupid when he got words wrong.

Pedro's turn to be Star of the Week finally arrived. Pedro put his book of photos on the class shelf. It was full of pictures of his friends and cousins in Mexico. He stood two of his favorite Spanish books next to the photos. Then he put the soccer ball from Carlos on the shelf. He stuck it in the corner so it wouldn't roll.

The other students eyed Pedro's stuff. He went to the front of the room to share. He was so scared his hands were shaking. He started to speak. To his surprise, English words came out easily! He went on and on about his family and friends in Mexico. He read a little bit of his Spanish books to the class. (Then he told what they said in English.) He even showed some tricks he could do with the soccer ball. His classmates thought he was so cool!

Pedro only made one mistake in English. He called the soccer ball a "football." But no one cared or laughed. Instead they clapped for him. Pedro smiled proudly. He felt like a star!

- 1. What was someone in class supposed to bring when it was his or her turn to be the Star of the Week?**
 - A. Photos, books, toys, and games.
 - B. Candy and treats for the class.
 - C. A board to put their pictures on.

- 2. What went on the shelf in Mr. Johnson's room?**
 - A. Pictures of the students who were in his class.
 - B. The things that the Star of the Week brought.
 - C. Fun books for students to read during free time.

- 3. How did Pedro feel when he spoke in English and got words wrong?**
 - A. He felt like he must be stupid.
 - B. He wished everyone spoke Spanish.
 - C. He knew it was okay to make a mistake.

- 4. What showed that Pedro was really scared when he got up to talk?**
 - A. He couldn't remember his talk.
 - B. He knees began to shake.
 - C. His hands were shaking.

- 5. How did the children in Mr. Johnson's class feel about being the Star of the Week?**
 - A. It was fun, but it was too much work.
 - B. It was the best thing of the year.
 - C. It was scary to talk in front of the class.

- 6. What was one of the special things that Pedro wanted to bring to class?**
 - A. A soccer ball that his best friend had given him.
 - B. A pair of shoes to show what people in Mexico wore.
 - C. A picture that he had drawn when he was in first grade.

7. What surprised Pedro when he started to speak?

- A. He was able to remember his talk.
- B. All of the children began to listen.
- C. The English words came out easily.

8. What did Pedro worry about when he spoke English?

- A. That his classmates wouldn't want to listen to him.
- B. That he wouldn't fit in with the other children.
- C. That he would sound funny to his classmates.

9. Why was Pedro afraid to be the Star of the Week?

- A. He was afraid to speak in English to his classmates.
- B. He didn't think he could find anything to bring to class.
- C. He was afraid to talk in front of a whole class of children.

10. What was this story mostly about?

- A. A teacher who made sure all the children in class spoke English.
- B. How children in a class at school got to be stars for a day.
- C. A boy who learned that he could speak English just fine.

11. How did the story end?

- A. Pedro read his books to the class in Spanish and in English.
- B. Everyone liked Pedro's talk, and Pedro felt like a star.
- C. Pedro got over being afraid, and the teacher was happy.

12. What happened right after Pedro put his things to show the class on the class shelf?

- A. He thought about what he would say to his classmates.
- B. He went to the front of the room and started to talk.
- C. The children looked at all the things he brought.