

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Answers

# Fill in the Blanks with Vivid Vocabulary

**Directions:** Use the vocabulary words in the word bank to fill in the blanks and complete the story. Use each word only once. Use a dictionary if you need help.

dread	squinting	abruptly	dashing	nervously	flushed	passage
retrieve	shadowy	squealed	gasping	cramped	menacing	chuckled
encounter	cautiously	perched	toss	fuzzy	impatiently	relieved

“Come on! toss the ball over here!” squealed Kendra, excitedly.

I threw the ball as hard as I could, but instead of sailing towards Kendra’s wildly waving arms, it flew sideways and dropped abruptly, falling into the small, shadowy gap between the house and the garage.

“Oh man!” I groaned, staring nervously in the direction of the ball. I knew that it was up to me to retrieve the ball, since I had thrown it, but as I slowly walked towards the garage, I felt a pit of dread forming in my stomach.

“Hurry up!” yelled Kendra impatiently.

I dragged my feet and the gravel crunched beneath my shoes. I peeked cautiously into the narrow passage, searching for the ball in the dim light. Suddenly I spotted it in the shadows, just a few feet from the small opening where I was standing.

“I see it!” I shouted and I began inching my way into the cramped space, reaching blindly towards the ball.

As I crept forward, squinting my eyes, I felt something soft and fuzzy brush against my arm.

“AHHHHHH!” I shrieked, dashing out of the dark tunnel, “A monster!” I ran, gasping all the way back to the lawn and stood shaking, relieved to be alive after my close encounter with what was surely an incredibly menacing beast.

Kendra pulled a feather from my sleeve and laughingly asked, “Is this your monster?”

My cheeks flushed as I turned and looked back towards the garage. A tiny robin was perched on the eaves just above our lost ball.

“I guess I overreacted,” I shrugged, giggling.

Kendra chuckled and said, “C’mon, we’ll go get the ball together.”