

Name: _____ Date: _____

"Chompy Joins the Family":

Blake has been afraid of dogs since he was a little kid. He was bitten by a neighbor's dog when he was three, and has stayed as far away from dogs as possible ever since. He doesn't even like watching them on television.



Blake liked to spend time at his Aunt's house, especially after she got a Wii. Blake loved to go over there and play Skylanders with her. She wasn't very good at it, but they still had a lot of fun.

One day when Blake went over there after school, his Aunt was waiting for him at the door. "Guess what?" she said. "I have a big surprise for you."

Blake was excited. "What is it? Tell me, tell me, tell me."

"Come inside and sit on the couch with your eyes closed," she said. "DO NOT open them."

Blake did as he was told, anxiously waiting for his big surprise. "What could it be?" He wondered. He had been begging for a new Skylander Giant for weeks; maybe that's it. Or maybe she bought him a who new game. He couldn't wait any longer.

"Please hurry," he begged. "Can I open my eyes yet?"

"Just about," his Aunt said. Blake could hear her coming closer. "Ready? Open!"

Blake opened his eyes to a white, fuzzy ball of fur. He immediately jumped back.

"It's a Mini-American Eskimo," she said. "Isn't he cute?"

"I don't like dogs," Blake said, upset at his surprise. His Aunt knew he was afraid of dogs.

"I know," she said. "I thought raising a dog from a puppy would help you get to know them and lose your fear." Blake didn't say a word.

"How can you be afraid of this cute little fur ball?" she asked. Blake had to admit he was cute. Blake carefully held out his hand so the puppy could smell it. Before he knew it, the pup was licking his hand and arm all over. Blake couldn't help but laugh.

"I guess it's ok," he said. "He looks harmless. What's his name?"

"I thought I would let you pick his name. Any ideas?"

"How about Chompy?" he suggested. "Like in the Skylanders game."

"Do you really think he looks like a Chompy?" his Aunt asked.

"No," Blake replied. "That's why it is such a perfect name."

"Well then," she said. "Chompy it is."

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"Chompy Joins the Family" Questions:

1. Why is Blake afraid of dogs?



2. Why does Blake like going to his Aunt's house?

3. What did Blake think his surprise was going to be?

4. Why was Blake upset at his surprise?

5. Why did Blake's Aunt think it was a good idea to buy him a puppy?

Bonus Question:

1. Why do you think Blake thought the name "Chompy" was such a good name?
