

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Drawing the Future

Ever since Mortimer Mouse was born, his father has been telling him that one day he will run the family store. His father always starts the conversation with the story of how Mortimer's great-grandfather started the store. "There was a need for cheese," his father would say, "and your great-grandfather had a plan!" Mortimer's great-grandfather was a man of action and when his community needed him, the "More Cheese Please" cheese store was created. This store had been passed down to the first son for three generations and when Mortimer turns eighteen, the store would be passed down to him. There was only one problem with this plan: no one had ever asked Mortimer what he thought about it.



The topic of conversation at the dinner table continues to be the same. His father would tell a story about the store and beam with pride as he recalled the day his father passed the keys to him. His mother, with a tear in her eye, would recall the day Mortimer was born and mention how her baby is growing up so quickly. Mortimer would make it through dinner and then head to his room where he could be alone with his thoughts. In his room, he thought about a lot of things: what he wanted to do with his life, who he wanted to be, and whether he really wanted to run the store. He knew it would make his father proud, but was there a way to run the store and run after his own dream? No one knew his secret because no one had every asked. They all assumed the same thing: that one day, Mortimer Mouse would run the store. What his parents did not know, what the town did not know, was that Mortimer wanted to become an artist and that no matter what, he would never stop drawing pictures of his dreams.

1. What does Mortimer's father always talk about? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Look at the second paragraph. How does Mortimer feel when his parents talk to him about the store? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is it so important to Mortimer's family that he takes over the store? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What does Mortimer want to do? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you think Mortimer could run the cheese store and be an artist? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_