

Read the story.
Then answer the
questions.



Odette and the Boots

Odette was the littlest dog on the block. She lived with a man and a woman and their six sons in a nice house, and she was very well loved. When she was taken out for walks on sunny days she wore little leather booties to protect her feet from the hot, rough pavement. And when she was taken out on rainy days, she wore a set of four little red rubber boots. Odette hated to get her feet wet, and she loved her little red rubber boots. But whenever she was out on a walk with her boots on, the other dogs in the neighborhood made fun of her. Odette's owner thought they were just saying hello. But really they were telling her how silly and pretentious that she looked, and calling her mean names.

Odette was a kind-hearted dog, and generous. She didn't hold it against the other dogs that they were so rude. She probably did look silly to them, but if they could only know the pleasure of having dry feet! She was sure that they would all be as proud of their boots as she was of hers.

One day Odette was laying in the floor in one of the sons' rooms, feeling depressed. Ralph, down the block, had been particularly sarcastic to her that day when she had scampered past him in her little red boots. She gazed sadly out in front of her with her little chin resting on her delicate feet. Directly in her line of vision was the boy's closet, and laying in the middle of the closet in the floor were a pair of dark green rain boots. This gave Odette an idea.

One by one, she drug each boot out through the dog door, across the porch, down the sidewalk, and halfway down the block in the rain. Then she went into one of the other boys' rooms and got another pair of boots, this time blue. Ralph watched her with growing curiosity from the shelter of his dog house as she drug the boots, one at a time, to him.

"What are you doing, Odette?" he asked finally, as she drug the fourth boot into Ralph's yard. "Where are your boots?"

"I brought these boots for you," Odette said. "I want you to see how wonderful it is to have dry feet, so that you will stop making fun of me."

Ralph was skeptical. He did not want to look silly like Odette. But he did hate to have wet feet. So he slipped one boot on each of his feet and ventured out into the rain. Immediately he felt bad about every mean thing he had ever said to Odette. Having dry feet was wonderful!

“Do you think you can get boots for Curly across the street too?” Ralph asked. “If he sees me in these he’ll laugh for sure, but only if he doesn’t understand!”

Odette agreed. She brought all the boots and shoes that she could find in the boys’ closets and passed them out to her grateful friends. When her owner came home that day, she found her house in an uproar. All of the boys were complaining at once that they couldn’t find a thing to put on their feet! But their mother hardly heard them. She was too busy trying to figure out why every dog she had seen since she entered the neighborhood was sporting a mismatched set of rubber rain boots!

1. Who does Odette live with?

- A. A woman
- B. A man and woman and their six boys
- C. Ralph

2. Why do the other dogs make fun of Odette?

- A. They think she looks silly in boots.
- B. They secretly really like her.
- C. Her hair gets messed up in the rain.



3. Why does Odette bring the boots to Ralph?

- A. She’s trying to hide them.
- B. She wants him to help her put them on.
- C. She wants him to feel how wonderful it is to have dry feet in the rain.

4. What does Ralph ask Odette to do?

- A. Take the boots away.
- B. Bring boots for his friend Curly.
- C. Help him put on the boots.

3. Why is Odette’s owner distracted at the end of the story?

- A. She just saw all the dogs in the neighborhood wearing boots.
- B. All of her sons are yelling.
- C. She can’t find her boots.