

Name: _____

Date: _____

Identifying Theme:

Directions: read each short story and determine the theme or message in the story. Remember that a good answer will focus on big world lessons, not small world details of the story.



Andy's New Sister

Andy was nine when her parent's announced that they were having a baby. They were so excited to tell her that she was going to have a little sister around to play with and couldn't stop talking about how much fun Andy would have with this new little baby around.

The only problem was that Andy didn't completely agree with them. She liked being the only child. She didn't have to share her room or her toys. She always got to choose what she and mom had for lunch and where they went out for an afternoon and that was all going to change when the baby was born.

As it got closer to March, the month the baby was due; Andy became irritated with all the talk about the baby and how excited everyone was to meet the little girl. She hated that she had to move her dresser out of her bedroom to make more space for a crib. She didn't want so much baby stuff in her room.

Andy didn't want to stick around to see how it would turn out. She dug out the little pink backpack she had used in school last year and packed her hairbrush, extra shoes, and her favorite dress. She thought about it, and grabbed her favorite blanket so the baby couldn't take it. Andy left the house while everyone was in the kitchen and walked to the playground on the corner of her street.

Twenty minutes had passed, but it seemed like an hour for Andy. She really wasn't sure where to go next and knew it was getting close to supper time. After all, she had forgotten her toothbrush, so Andy walked home. She was greeted by her parents, who thought that she was in her room playing. After she was questioned about the backpack, she told her parents how she ran away because she didn't want a little sister.

After the baby was born, Andy had changed her mind. It was so cool to be a big sister and help mom out with the baby. It turned out that being a big sister was the best job ever.

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What is the theme of this story?

What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?
