

# The Stray Dog



**DIRECTIONS:** Read the story. Then answer the questions.

Emma's parents sent her to camp for the summer. Emma was quiet and shy, and she found it difficult to make new friends. The other girls at camp liked to swim, and run, and yell, and play baseball. They weren't afraid of anything. Emma like to read, but at camp she wasn't allowed to read. The counselors made her come outside with everyone else. But instead of joining in, the first few days Emma sat to the side, watching. She felt sad and lonely. She wanted to go home.

One afternoon she was sitting at the edge of the woods, on the side of the baseball field, watching the other kids play, when a stray dog wandered up. Thankfully, none of the counselors noticed, since they would have chased the dog away. But the dog was gentle and quiet. She walked with her head hung low, and her tail between her legs. She was so skinny that Emma could see her ribs. She held out her hand, and waited for the dog to approach her. But she didn't. She only wagged her tail for a moment, then darted back into the woods.

The next day, Emma brought two rolls from the cafeteria in case the dog returned, and she did. This time she came close enough to take the rolls from Emma's hand. The dog wagged her tail again. This happened several days in a row. Then, one day, someone noticed. Two of the bigger girls, who always pounded around on the field, yelling and throwing and catching, approached Emma and the dog quietly.

"Where did that dog come from?" One of them asked.

"The woods," Emma said.

The girls wanted to help care for the stray dog too. Soon they were bringing the dog breakfast, lunch and dinner. The dog grew plumper and more confident. Emma grew more confident too. One day, with her new friends with her for support, Emma went to the camp director and told her about the dog.

"She needs a good home," Emma told her. "Can't she be our camp dog?"

The girls, led by Emma, took the director to the dog.

"I think that's a wonderful idea," she said, stroking the dog's head. "I will adopt her. She can live with me, and play with you girls every day."

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Sequence of Events

Emma and her new friends were thrilled. All the girls loved the dog, but no one loved her quite as much as Emma, because the dog's unexpected appearance had changed her life.

For each set of story events, put an X next to the one that happens first.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma's parents send her to camp.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma sits to the side while the other girls play sports.

\_\_\_\_\_ A stray dog wanders up.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma finds it difficult to make new friends.

\_\_\_\_\_ The dog wags her tail.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma holds her hand out to the dog.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma waits for the dog to approach her.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma saves two rolls from the cafeteria.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma feeds the rolls to the dog.

\_\_\_\_\_ Two bigger girls approach Emma.

\_\_\_\_\_ All three girls start bringing food for the dog.

\_\_\_\_\_ Emma goes to the camp director.

\_\_\_\_\_ The girls start feeding the dog three times a day.

\_\_\_\_\_ The camp director agrees to keep the dog.

