

Name: _____

The Lost Kitten

“Meow! Meow!” cried Fluff, the tabby cat, as she



ran about the house in a state of great excitement, with her fur on end and her tail sticking straight up in the air.

“Boo-hoo! Boo-hoo!” cried dark-haired Poppy as she followed Fluff about, rubbing her fat little

knuckles into her pretty brown eyes.

In fact, these two little creatures were just as miserable as it is possible for two little creatures to be. And yet the day before had been all sunshine and happiness, for both the little girl and the tabby cat. The day before had been Poppy’s birthday, and she had gotten up very early in

The Lost Kitten – Page 2

the morning so as to make the most of it.

1. What color are Poppy's eyes?

- a. blue
- b. brown
- c. green
- d. violet

Happy Poppy! What lovely presents there were waiting for her when she got downstairs! There was a doll from her mother, a dollhouse from her father, and a lovely picture-book had come from Aunt Bernice by post.

Father had made her a beautiful cake with sugar on the top. Her babysitter had given her a pretty mug with

the words, "a present for a good girl," handwritten in golden letters upon it. Nobody had forgotten her.

2. What gift does Poppy receive from Aunt Bernice?

- a. doll
- b. dollhouse
- c. mug
- d. picture-book

"There is one more present for you, Poppy," said her father. "Look in the cat's basket, and you will see what she has for you."

Now, what do you think it was? It was a kitten—a tiny wee kitten that didn't know how to open its eyes, and was not even able to

The Lost Kitten – Page 3

stand. Fluff was exceedingly proud of her baby, and purred when the little girl took it in her arms. Poppy named the kitten Midge, and Fluff seemed to think it a very good name indeed.

Midge Midge



Poppy Poppy



So what with tea parties given in the new dollhouse, and what with changing the new doll's dress every half-hour, the

day was a very happy one. Bedtime seemed to come hours and hours too soon.

The next morning, Poppy was awakened by Fluff meowing and scratching at the bedroom door. As soon as the door



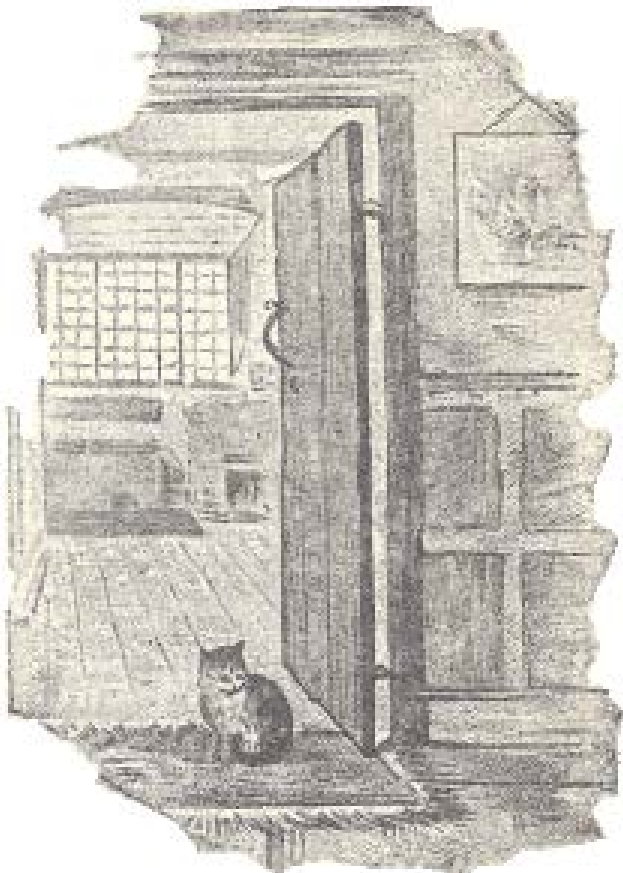
was opened, in she ran, evidently in a great state of mind about something.

“Meow! Meow!” Fluff cried as she jumped on Poppy's bed and began searching amongst the blankets. “Meow! Meow!” she cried again as she jumped back to the floor and buried her head in the toy box. Then she ran under the bed, and then under the dresser,

The Lost Kitten – Page 4

and then popped behind the curtains, and at last ran back to the door, and scratched to be let out.

“What can be the matter with the cat?” said Poppy’s mother, as she opened the door and away ran Fluff, meowing all the time.



“Perhaps she is hungry, and wants her breakfast,” answered Poppy.

But it was more than breakfast that poor Fluff wanted, as Poppy learned as soon as she got downstairs. It was enough to make any cat meow—enough to make any mother weep.

Midge, the kitten, had disappeared!

Midge, the kitten, had gone, and nobody knew where. Nobody could even guess what had become of her. A kitten a day old could neither see nor walk. To go off on her own was indeed unbelievable.

“We shall next be having month-old babies getting out of their cribs, and

The Lost Kitten – Page 5

washing and dressing themselves, and going out for a walk to work up an appetite before breakfast,” laughed Poppy’s father.

This was a rather funny idea, but it didn’t make Poppy laugh. She was far too miserable to think of anything else except crying for her kitten.

3. Poppy is _____.

- a. crying
- b. laughing

Everyone hunted upstairs and downstairs. They looked into cupboards, boxes, and baskets, but with no success. At last, they had to give up the search in despair. Poppy had to

console herself with her new doll, the dollhouse, and the picture-book. Poor Fluff, who didn’t care very much about toys, continued to roam about the house, meowing piteously.

Now, I wonder, if you could guess where that little kitten was. I don’t think you could guess rightly if you tried a hundred times. And so to save you so much trouble, I will tell you.

4. What do you think happened to Midge?

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

The Lost Kitten – Page 6

Just as Poppy had finished her dinner, and thought that she would have one more search for Midge, a rat-tat-tat came at the door, and presently in walked a little boy. The boy's name was Diego; he lived next door, and was a great friend of Poppy.

Diego Diego



Scamp Scamp



“I say, Pop, something very wonderful happened at

home this morning,” said Diego, looking exceedingly mysterious.

“Really! Do tell us, Diego,” cried Poppy, who was a curious little girl.

“Don't you be impatient. It's a really and truly wonderful story, so I must begin at the beginning. Well, you know our dog Scamp, don't you? And you know that Scamp had four little puppies the other day? And that we gave three of them away, so Scamp had only one left—because three from four leaves one? That's subtraction. Well, down I come this morning, and went to look at the puppy, and lo and behold there was something else in

The Lost Kitten – Page 7

the basket! What do you think it was?”

“A bone, perhaps,” guessed Poppy.

“Silly!” cried Diego. “That wouldn’t have been anything wonderful. It was something alive.”

“Hmm...a black beetle, then,” suggested Poppy.

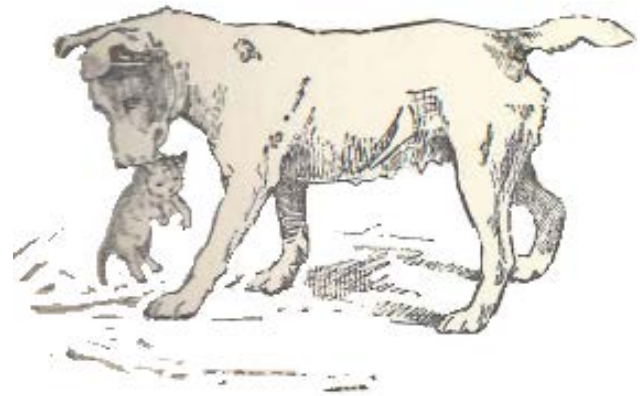
“Wrong again. It was a kitten.”



“A kitten!” cried Poppy and her entire family, all together.

“Yes, a tabby kitten. There it was, looking quite comfortable, nestling up to Scamp,” said Diego.

“It’s ours. It’s our Midge!” shrieked Poppy. And so it really turned out to be when they all went next door to see the kitten in Scamp’s basket.



No doubt Scamp, when she went out in the morning, went in search of her lost puppies. Finding Poppy’s back door open, Scamp thought she might just as well see if the puppies were

The Lost Kitten – Page 8

there. Not finding them, she ran off with the kitten as the next best thing.

Midge was of course given back to Fluff, who spent the rest of the day washing her face. Fluff never again left Midge alone in the basket, but carried her around in her mouth wherever she went, until

Midge was old enough to walk beside her.



Summarize this story in your own words.

Beginning	Middle	End

The Lost Kitten – Page 9

Describe each character in this story.

Poppy
Mother
Father
Fluff
Midge
Diego
Scamp

