

READ THE PASSAGE Ask yourself why the author wrote the passage.

Silly Squirrels

Summer was over. The air was getting colder. Leaves were falling from the trees. The squirrel family was gathering seeds and nuts. They would save them for later. They knew that food would be hard to find under the snow.

"I can jump higher than you can," one brother said.

"No you can't. Watch me," the other squirrel brother said.

"Who can find more acorns?" asked their mother. This put the brothers to work. Up and down the tree they went.

Then, there it was, at the end of a branch—the biggest acorn ever.

"I saw it first!" said one brother.

"No, I did," said the other. "It's mine!"

They both held on to the acorn. Neither one would let go. Then the acorn slipped. It fell to the ground and landed near a boy's feet.

"Hey, look at this big acorn," the boy said. And he put it in his pocket.

SKILL PRACTICE Read the question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- The writer most likely wrote the passage to _____.
Ⓐ teach a lesson
Ⓑ show how leaves fall
Ⓒ tell what squirrels eat
Ⓓ show how big acorns are
- What will the brothers probably do next time?
Ⓐ yell at each other
Ⓑ hold on to the acorn
Ⓒ throw the acorn down
Ⓓ share with each other
- Which of these do you think the author would say?
Ⓐ "If you find something, it is yours."
Ⓑ "Sharing something is better than having nothing."
Ⓒ "If you lose something, it is your fault."
Ⓓ "Parents always know what is best."
- The boy will most likely _____.
Ⓐ put the acorn down
Ⓑ give the acorn back
Ⓒ take the acorn home
Ⓓ look for a bigger acorn

STRATEGY PRACTICE What question would you ask the author about the passage?