

Name: _____

Four-Leaf Clover

by Kelly Hashway



Erin held her four-leaf clover in the palm of her hand so the group of kids hovering around her could see it.

"Why is it lucky?" Donnie asked.

"Four-leaf clovers are hard to find," Erin said. "I searched my grandparents' backyard for hours looking for this one."

"But how do you know it's lucky?" Donnie asked.

Erin shrugged. "I just know." She couldn't think of a way to describe it, but she felt lucky and she figured it was because of the four-leaf clover.

"Let's test it," Joannie said.

"How?" Erin asked.

Joannie looked around the school grounds. Trees lined the fence behind the swings. "We could all try to catch the leaves when they fall off the trees. Everyone knows it's lucky to catch a leaf before it falls to the ground."

"Okay," Erin said. "First one to catch a leaf wins."

"Five minutes left in recess!" Mrs. Roberts yelled.

"We better hurry," Joannie said.

A gust of wind blew.

"Oh no!" Erin yelled. She stared at her empty hand. "Where's my four-leaf clover?"

"The wind must have blown it away," Joannie said.

"I have to find it!" Erin said, searching the leaf covered grass.

"Forget it. You'll never find it," Donnie said.

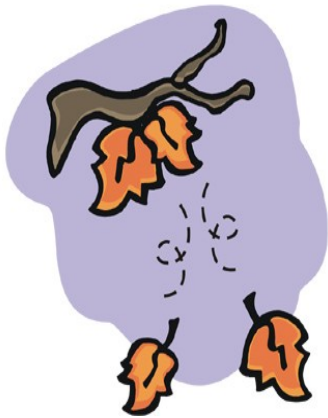
"Sorry, Erin, but Donnie's right," Joannie said. "We can still try to catch leaves."

Erin sighed. She'd never catch a leaf without her lucky clover. Still, she followed the others over to the trees.

"The competition begins on the count of three," Joannie said. "One, two, three!"

Erin scrambled for a leaf falling nearby, but she tripped over her shoelace. "Ouch!" she said. "The bad luck is starting already."

Before she could get up, she saw a leaf heading straight for her. She reached for it and closed her hands around the prettiest red leaf.



"Look! I caught a leaf!" Erin yelled.

"I guess you didn't lose your luck after all," Joannie said.

"You have to make a wish," Donnie said. "Then let the leaf fall to the ground."

Erin stood up and thought about her wish. She closed her eyes and whispered so no one else would hear, "I wish I'd stop being so superstitious."

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1. Where did Erin find her four-leaf clover?

2. Describe Joannie's idea for testing the clover's lucky powers.

3. What happened right after the leaf-catching competition began?

- a. Erin caught a red leaf.
- b. Erin tripped and fell down.
- c. The wind blew Erin's four-leaf clover away.
- d. Erin made a wish.

4. In the last line of the story, Erin wishes that she wasn't so superstitious. What does superstitious mean?

ANSWER KEY

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1. Where did Erin find her four-leaf clover?

In her grandparents' backyard.

2. Describe Joannie's idea for testing the clover's lucky powers.

Joannie said it's lucky to catch a leaf. She thought everyone should try to catch leaves that fall from a tree. If Erin was the first one to catch a leaf, it would prove that her clover is lucky.

3. What happened right after the leaf-catching competition began? **b**

- a. Erin caught a red leaf.
- b. Erin tripped and fell down.
- c. The wind blew Erin's four-leaf clover away.
- d. Erin made a wish.

4. In the last line of the story, Erin wishes that she wasn't so superstitious. What does superstitious mean?

Superstitious means believing that certain objects or actions can bring good luck or bad luck.