

Oral Reading Test

- ▶ Jasper helped his father drive the long tent spikes into the earth as his mother and younger brother, Jacob, gathered firewood. The water on the nearby pond sparkled in the early morning sun.

“Hand me the last pole so we can prop up this back wall,” Jasper’s father instructed from behind a nylon sheet.

Jasper jogged over to the car. He rummaged around, but couldn’t find the pole. Then he spotted a length of rope, which he carried toward the tent.

“The last tent pole is missing, Dad,” Jasper confessed, “but we can use this rope.” Together, they tied it to the back wall of the tent and around a tree branch with a simple hitch knot.

After camp was set up, Jasper was eager for some rock climbing at the nearby peak with his mother. The adventurers hoisted their backpacks and set off. When they reached the peak, Jasper’s mother helped him step into a harness around his waist. Then she tied a double figure eight knot, keeping Jasper securely attached to the rope.

Jasper’s mother stepped into her harness, and took hold of the other end of the rope. Jasper began slowly climbing before gaining confidence. Twelve feet off the ground, as Jasper stretched out to reach a crack in the rock, his feet slipped on the smooth surface. His mother held on to her end of the rope, and Jasper dangled safely above the ground, the knot wrapped tightly around the loop in his harness.

After rock climbing, the adventurers returned to find Jasper’s father and Jacob fishing by the pond. Jasper joined them, pulling a fishing rod out of the equipment bag.

“You forgot something,” his father chuckled, knotting a fishing hook to the end of the line. Jasper baited the hook, cast off, and sat on the bank of the pond, ready for a relaxing evening.