

# Alex's Discovery

Alex was eating his breakfast one morning. Outside, his dog, Tiki, began to bark. Alex's mom looked up from the sink, where she was doing dishes. "Alex, please go see what Tiki is barking at."

"Sure, mom," Alex said. He went outside.

The little brown dog was barking at a bush. Alex knelt down. "What is it, Tiki?" he asked. "Is there a squirrel in there?" The bush began to rustle. Alex walked up to it. He saw something move behind the bush. He pushed the branches aside.

A tiny little man stood there. He wore a silver space suit. He had a big, round head. He had green skin. His nose was shaped like a horn. "Please do not hurt me," the little man said. "Okay," said Alex. For some reason, he did not feel afraid. "Are you from outer space?" The man nodded. "Yes. My name is Bort. I come from another planet. My space ship is out of **fuel**.<sup>1</sup> I need help."

"What kind of fuel do you need?" Alex asked. Bort took a little bottle from the pocket of his space suit. There was pink liquid inside. "This," he said. "You have lots of it here on Earth. I believe you call it lemonade." He gave the bottle to Alex. He opened the top and sniffed. It was lemonade, all right. "How much do you need?" Alex asked. "About ten thousand gallons," said Bort. "It is a very big ship."

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<sup>1</sup> **fuel**: a source of energy for cars, buses, trains, airplanes, or space ships

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. Describe what Alex found when he went outside.

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2. Where is Bort from?

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3. According to the story, how could Alex be helpful to Bort?

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4. What is this story mostly about?

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**Directions:** Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

*After breakfast, Alex found a little alien by following his dog's barking.*

Who? Alex

5. (did) What?

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6. When?

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7. How?

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8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

The alien was small and friendly \_\_\_\_\_ Alex was not scared.

- A but
- B because
- C so

**Directions:** Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **fuel** (fu · el): a source of energy for cars, buses, trains, airplanes, or space ships.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **fuel**.
- a. Before my soccer game, I ate a banana, which served as fuel for my body!
  - b. The airplane had enough fuel to fly thousands of miles across the country.
  - c. Coal can serve as fuel for some trains.
  - d. Ethanol is a type of fuel that can be produced from corn stalks and sugar cane!
  - e. Natural gas is another type of fuel that is often used to cook food on a stove.
10. Which image shows something that often contains fuel?

