

NAME: _____



Activity One

Before and After



Read the part in the book that tells what the basement in Peter's house looked like.

List five changes that Grandpa will make:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Draw your idea of what Grandpa's apartment will look like.

A large, empty rectangular box with a yellow border, intended for drawing.

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Activity Two

In Other Words



This story has many expressions to explain ideas or thoughts.

In your own words, explain the meaning of each of these expressions.

Expressions	Your meaning
1. Only a dope will mope.	
2. Be still my heart.	
3. Wishy – washy.	
4. He was the biggest bigshot.	
5. A slippery customer.	
6. Monkeyshines.	
7. Messing with your mind.	
8. She kept sweet-talking Dad.	
9. Got my old pizzazz back.	
10. Waiting for the other shoe to drop.	

Explain “everything will be hunky – dory” : _____

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Activity Three

The Family Album



Think about the people in this family. Draw a picture to show what each person looks like. Write two good sentences to tell how the person acts. The drawings in the story may help you.

1.

2.

Peter's Dad

1.

2.

Peter's Mom

1.

2.

Grandpa

1.

2.

Peter

1.

2.

Jenny

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Activity Four

Who Said?



Write the name of the character who said each of the following quotes in the story.

Character List

Grandpa
Steve Mayer

Peter
Jenny

Peter's Mom
Billy Alston

Peter's Dad

[Empty box for writing answer]

1. "That's not the secret," she said, putting her hand on her hip and posing like a statue or something. "Where do you think his room will be?"

[Empty box for writing answer]

2. "I was speaking to him the other day and guess what? He's sold the house down there and he's coming to live with us. Isn't that exciting?"

[Empty box for writing answer]

3. "We've got to make Grandpa feel welcome, kids. Our home is his home now. I expect you to treat him just like a member of the family."

[Empty box for writing answer]

4. "You're no Peapod anymore," he said, which was a nickname he had called me. "Petey, you're springing up like a weed."

[Empty box for writing answer]

5. "I don't care what you say. I think it stinks."

[Empty box for writing answer]

6. "I won't let nobody take my room." He made a fist and slammed it into his other palm. "Pow! Right in the nose!"

[Empty box for writing answer]

7. "Is there anything you want to say to me?" I asked him on the way back.

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Activity Five

Character Colors



Descriptions of each character are in the grid below. Color each description based on the color guide below.

Peter – BLUE **Grandpa** – GREEN **Jenny** – YELLOW

Peter's Mom – ORANGE **Peter's Dad** – RED

is firm with Peter	is very cheerful		
likes to cook			
always stubborn	does ballet	listens to his friends	wrote the first note of the "war"
is afraid of sounds on the third floor	oldest child		
has trouble walking	likes to fish	cannot live alone	
can't keep a secret			likes to play cards
built houses		is very lonely	
is not very good at fixing things			understands how Peter feels
youngest child	cares for her father		has blonde hair and blue eyes
is very respectful of Grandpa			works as an accountant

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Activity Six

The Right Facts



Read each question below. Then, circle the correct answer.

1. How long had Peter had his room?

since he was
three years old

all his life

for five years

2. Why does Jenny tell Peter about Grandpa coming to live with them?

her mother asked
her to tell him

she is checking
to see if it is true

she can't keep
a secret

3. Why was Peter afraid to sleep in the room on the third floor?

there were strange
and scary sounds

a boogeyman
lived up there

there were
no lights

4. Why did Peter start a war with Grandpa?

he likes fighting
with people

he has never fought
in a war before

he wants
his room back

5. Why does Peter listen to his friends?

they keep telling
him what to do

he can't think
of any ideas

he wants to be
the boss

6. Why does Grandpa decide to turn the basement into his apartment?

he needs
something to do

he wants his
own place

he likes to
spend money

7. Grandpa made a gift for Peter. It was a sign that said...

No Girls Allowed

This is Peter's Room

Pete's Place