

Lesson 177

The Big Day

Spelling words:

first	soon
then	finally
fifteen	one
next	two
after	three

Key Vocabulary: confident, panic, nervous

Look at the Vocabulary words. Your teacher will give you Vocabulary word cards and definition cards. Match each word to the correct definition. Read the word and its definition aloud.

Spelling: Look at the Spelling words. In the Journal you will write directions on how to play a game or sport. Use the Spelling words to order the sequence of events. Underline the Spelling words each time one is used. Spell each of the Spelling words aloud.

What are order words? Why are order words important when telling the sequence of events? Order words are used to help tell a story in an order that makes sense to the reader. Often a story is told in the exact order that the events happened.

Reading: In this Lesson we are going to talk about being scared and nervous. What does it feel like to be scared or nervous? What makes you feel scared? How do you help ease your fear of being nervous?

Let's look at the story "The Big Day".

What do you think this story will be about? What do the words on the cover say? Look at all the pictures in the story.

It's time to read "**The Big Day**". Make sure to look and point at each word as you say the word.

This will help you to make sure you do not lose your place when you are reading. It will also help you to really understand what you are reading.



Story Sequence Strips: Why is it important to tell a story in order? Your teacher will give you sentence strips with parts of the story "**The Big Day**" written on them. Shuffle the strips. Then put them in story order. Read the strips aloud. Do they make sense?

Writing: In your Journal answer the following question: What do you think would have happened if Katie did not find her mitt?

Lesson Wrap-Up: Describe the steps needed to complete a routine task such as making your bed. Remember to use order words.



The Big Day





It was the day of the big game. Katie was nervous. She was pitching for the first time.

She had practiced and practiced. Her coach was confident she would do well. Sitting at the kitchen table eating breakfast, Katie wasn't so sure. She barely ate anything. "You won't last long pitching if you don't eat," her mother said breaking into Katie's thoughts.



"I know," said Katie, "I can't help it. I am so nervous. This is my first time and I don't want to mess up."



“Katie you have practiced for weeks,” said her dad. “You’ll be great and we’ll be there to cheer you on.”

“What if I don’t strike anyone out? What if everybody walks? What if I hit someone?”

“Calm down, kiddo. You’ll be fine!” Her dad encouraged.

Katie put her breakfast dishes in the sink and went to get her baseball mitt. It wasn’t where she had put it the night before. “Don’t panic,” she told herself. “It’s got to be here somewhere.” She looked in the crate by the door first. It wasn’t there. She ran up to her room and looked in her closet. It wasn’t there, either.



Running downstairs, she plowed into her dad.

“Whoa!” said her dad, “What’s the big hurry?”

“I can’t find my baseball mitt,”

said Katie between breaths.

“Where have
you looked?”



“First, I looked in the crate by the door, then I
looked in my closet upstairs.” She replied.

“Did you look in the garage?” he asked. Katie ran
to the garage. After fifteen minutes she still had
not found her mitt.

“Where is it?” She asked desperately.



Katie's mom came out to the garage. "Have you found it?" She wondered.

"NO!" said Katie. "I can't go to the stupid game without it!" She cried.

"Calm down, Katie, we'll find it. Tell me what you did after practice, yesterday."

Katie started to think. "First, I came in and took off my shoes in the laundry room. Then I put my glove in the crate by the door, but now it's not there. Next, I went upstairs to change clothes and take a shower. I thought I might have put my mitt in the closet, it's not there." "Okay," said her mom, "What else did you do?"



“After the shower I came downstairs and had a bowl of ice cream. Mom my mitt is gone!” Katie shouted.

“It can’t be Katie, it’s here somewhere. We just have to keep looking. Look in the backyard.”

The more Katie looked, the more frantic she became. Her glove had just disappeared. Soon, her mom and dad were telling her it was time to go. “Oh great,” said Katie, “this is a good start for my first pitching game. She slowly walked back to the house. As she got in the car, Katie laid down in the back seat. Her arm hung down to the floor. Suddenly, she felt something. She reached for it. “MY GLOVE!”



“Hurry dad or we’ll be late!” Finally, they arrived at the ball diamond. Katie jumped from the car. She ran over to her teammates. She saw the catcher, Shelby. “Hey Shelby!” Greeted Katie. Shelby smiled so big you could see her braces.

“Hey freckle face,” replied Shelby. “Ready for the big game?”

“Yeah,” said Katie.



Shelby and Katie moved away from the rest of the team to practice. Katie stood there looking at Shelby. She slowly raised her arm to set up for the pitch.



She pulled back and let out a low, fast pitch.

Smack! Right into Shelby's hand! Shelby pulled her hand out of her mitt. It was as red as a tomato.

"Geez, Katie save it for the game." Shelby teased.

As the game began, Katie was even more nervous than before. Shelby smiled at her. She threw her first pitch. "STRIKE ONE!" Yelled the umpire. Katie pitched again. Her second pitch was a fastball. "STRIKE TWO!" She heard. One more Katie thought to herself. She threw the change up pitch. "STRIKE THREE! Batter out!" After this Katie began to relax.





The rest of the game went smoothly. All her worries faded away as the game continued. She did not hit anyone. She struck out a few and walked a few but overall she was great. Katie and Shelby did a great job and their team won 5-4. After the game her dad said, “Well kiddo how do you like pitching?”

“I love it!” Katie replied.

“Good,” said her dad, “When we get home you can pitch in and help with dinner.” They laughed and walked to the car. Katie’s first game as a pitcher was a huge success!