

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Hamster Havoc

Mr. Thompson, the fifth-grade teacher at Elmwood Elementary School, was known for many things. He was known for his love of teaching, his passion for mathematics, and his friendly smile that greeted his students every morning. However, there was one thing he was also known for - his fear of animals. Cats, dogs, birds, you name it, he was terrified of them all. So when the class decided to adopt a class pet, a cute little hamster named Whiskers, Mr. Thompson's heart skipped a beat.

The responsibility of taking care of Whiskers was supposed to rotate among the students, but somehow, Mr. Thompson always found a way to avoid it. That was until the day when all the students had already taken care of Whiskers, and it was his turn. He couldn't back out this time, and he knew he had to face his fear head-on.

On Monday morning, Mr. Thompson reluctantly entered the classroom, where Whiskers' cage sat on a table in the corner. The students had left a list of instructions on the board, but Mr. Thompson couldn't bring himself to read them. He had seen Whiskers from afar, but now he had to get close to the little furry creature. His heart raced as he approached the cage, and he cautiously opened the door. Whiskers seemed friendly enough, but Mr. Thompson was not so sure.

As the week went on, Mr. Thompson faced various challenges and mishaps with Whiskers. On Tuesday, he accidentally spilled some of Whiskers' food while trying to feed him, and it took him a while to clean it up. On Wednesday, he attempted to clean Whiskers' cage, but the little critter escaped and scurried around the classroom, causing a commotion that had the whole class in stitches.

Thursday was the most nerve-wracking day. Mr. Thompson had to give Whiskers a bath, something he had never done before. Armed with a small basin of water and a tiny towel, he gingerly picked up the hamster and dipped him in the water. Whiskers, not appreciating the bath, squeaked loudly, and Mr. Thompson almost dropped him in surprise. After a quick bath and lots of apologies, Whiskers was back in his cage, and Mr. Thompson was relieved that it was over.

By Friday, Mr. Thompson had started to get the hang of taking care of Whiskers. He even found himself talking to the hamster, telling him about his day and how he had conquered his fear, albeit slowly. As the day came to an end, Mr. Thompson realized that he had survived the week without any major mishaps. He had taken care of Whiskers, faced his fear, and even started to like the little hamster.

When the students returned on Monday, Mr. Thompson proudly handed over the responsibility of Whiskers to one of his students. They were amazed to see how much he had changed in just a week. Mr. Thompson had not only conquered his fear of animals but had also developed a fondness for their class pet.

