

Name _____



Teamwork Colors

Duncan loved to draw, and his crayons worked hard to help him create wonderful pictures. But one day, instead of crayons in his box, he found a pile of letters. Each crayon had written to him, explaining their feelings. Some were overworked, others were ignored, and a few were even fighting! At first, Duncan was surprised, but as he read through the letters, he realized that his crayons were working together to help him understand their needs.

Red Crayon wrote first. "Duncan, I am tired! You use me for apples, fire trucks, hearts, and even holidays. I never get a break!" Blue Crayon followed, saying, "I'm happy to be your favorite, but I'm shrinking! I color the ocean, the sky, and big lakes, and now I'm just a tiny stub."

Some crayons weren't used enough. Pink Crayon wrote, "Why do you only use me for princess dresses? I can be so much more!" Black Crayon complained, "I only get to outline things. Why can't I be used to color something big for once?" Beige Crayon sighed, "I get ignored because Brown gets to color fun things like bears and trees, but all I get is wheat."

Then came the biggest argument—between Yellow and Orange Crayon. "I AM the color of the sun!" Yellow wrote. "No, I AM!" Orange responded. They had been fighting for so long that they needed Duncan to decide who was right.

Even though each crayon wrote its own letter, together, they sent a powerful message: Duncan needed to be fair with his colors. They wanted to be used in a way that made them all feel valued.

Duncan realized that just like in a team, every crayon had something important to offer. So, he changed the way he colored. He made a pink dinosaur, a blue tree, a black beach, and an orange-and-yellow sun. His crayons had never looked so happy, and his drawing had never looked so creative.

Through their teamwork, the crayons helped Duncan see the importance of listening to everyone's needs. By working together, they showed him that fairness and creativity go hand in hand.