

Maya and the Lost Library Card

Name: _____ Date: _____ Read the story, then answer the questions on the next page.



Maya loved Tuesdays because Tuesday was library day. She always knew exactly which book she wanted. Today it was a book about deep-sea animals, and she had been thinking about glowing fish all week.

At the library door, Maya reached into her pocket for her library card. It was not there. She checked her other pocket, her backpack, and even inside her lunch bag. Nothing.

“I cannot borrow a book without my card,” she whispered. Her shoulders sank.

Her friend Leo said, “Do not give up yet. When did you last see it?”

Maya thought carefully. “Yesterday, at the reading rug. I used it as a bookmark while we read about volcanoes.”

The two friends walked calmly to the reading rug and lifted the volcano book from the shelf. They opened it slowly, page by page. On page 42, tucked flat against the picture of an erupting mountain, was Maya’s blue library card.

Maya felt **relieved**. She held the card tightly and marched to the checkout desk. “One book about deep-sea animals, please,” she said, grinning.

That night, Maya made a special pocket in the front of her reading notebook. “From now on,” she said, “my card lives here — not inside a book.”

Words to know

borrow — to take something for a short time and return it later | **search** — to look carefully for something | **patient** — able to wait or keep trying without getting upset | **relieved** — happy because a worry is over

Show what you understood

1. What is the main idea of the story?
 - A. Maya learns how volcanoes erupt.
 - B. Maya loses her library card, works out where it is, and finds a better way to keep it.
 - C. Leo borrows a book about deep-sea animals.
 - D. The library is closed on Tuesdays.
2. Why does Maya check her lunch bag?

3. Put these events in order. Write 1, 2, 3, and 4.
 - ___ Maya makes a special pocket in her notebook.
 - ___ Maya cannot find her library card.
 - ___ Leo asks when Maya last saw the card.
 - ___ Maya finds the card inside the volcano book.
4. In the story, Maya is patient. Which sentence shows this best?
 - A. "I cannot borrow a book without my card."
 - B. They opened it slowly, page by page.
 - C. "One book about deep-sea animals, please."
 - D. Maya loved Tuesdays.
5. What does the word *relieved* mean in the story?
 - A. Tired
 - B. Worried
 - C. Happy because a worry is over
 - D. In a hurry
6. Write 2–3 sentences: What would you do if you lost something important at school? Use one word from Words to Know.

Go further — optional, and separate from the core activity above. Try these only if you have time, or pick just one.

7. How does Leo's question help Maya solve her problem? Use a detail from the story.
8. How is finding the card different from making a special pocket for it? Which solves today's problem, and which might prevent it next time?

Answers are on the teacher page at the end of this resource.

EXIT TICKET

Cut off and hand in

Name: _____ Date: _____

Exit ticket — cut off and hand in

One thing Maya did that helped her solve her problem was:

One question I still have about the story is:

> Cut here — — — — —

Answer key & teacher notes

Answer key — core questions (student pages 1–2)

1. B.

2. She is searching places where the card might be. This is an inference; the story does not say she put it in her lunch bag. Accept any answer that shows she is looking for the card in places it could be.

3. 4, 1, 2, 3, in the order the choices appear — that is: cannot find her card = 1, Leo asks = 2, finds the card = 3, makes a pocket = 4.

4. B.

5. C.

6. Answers vary; look for a sensible response and appropriate use of a vocabulary word.

Exit ticket: Maya remembered where she last used the card and searched page by page (accept similar wording).

Go further — discussion guidance (optional questions 7–8)

7. Leo's question — "When did you last see it?" — turns a general search into a specific memory. Maya remembers using the card as a bookmark at the reading rug, which tells her exactly where to look. Accept answers that link the question to that memory and to the volcano book.

8. Finding the card solves today's problem: Maya can borrow her book. Making a special pocket does not find the card, but it may prevent the problem next time by giving the card a regular home. Either order of reasoning is fine if the student separates "fixing now" from "preventing later."

Teacher notes — a few flexible ways to use this, if they help

- Read the story together, read it aloud, or let students read in pairs — whichever fits your class that day.
- The conversation between Maya and Leo works well read aloud in pairs, with one student as Maya and one as Leo.
- If you have a few extra minutes, the Go Further questions on page 2 can be a short discussion, a written extra, or left out entirely — the core activity stands on its own.
- Question 6 can also be a quick class share, if students are comfortable sharing their own lost-and-found stories.

Commerce Street Cares — a free resource library for teachers and schools, from Commerce Street Procurement.

More free classroom projects and kits: <https://commercestreetprocurement.com/resources/library/>

This resource may be copied freely for classroom use at your school. The website thumbnail for this resource is the illustrated image of Maya and Leo finding the blue card in the volcano book, without a logo or headline over it.