

Name: _____

Big City Fun

by Kelly Hashway

As Emily stepped off the train into Penn Station, she looked around at all the people rushing here, there, and everywhere. Emily clutched her older sister's hand and wished she was back home in Pennsylvania.



"This way, Em," Diana said, ushering Emily through the crowd and onto the streets of New York City.

Emily closed her eyes, trying to block out the city noise and picture her peaceful backyard at home filled with giant trees and the field of lush, green grass.

"Open your eyes, silly. You don't want to miss this," Diana said.

"Keep up girls," Dad said, taking Mom's hand and leading them down the avenue.

Emily peeked out one eye. People were everywhere, and the buildings were huge. "Aren't there any trees around here?"

Diana laughed. "I know you like it back home, but look around. The city is awesome. Look at all the stores and the displays."

Emily looked up. She was used to billboards back home, but these were colorful and animated. Before she knew it, she was smiling. "Where are we going?" she asked her mom. Her parents had kept the reason for the trip a secret, saying it was a surprise.

"You'll see." Her mom smiled back at her.

They kept walking, and Emily took in all the sights. Everything seemed bigger here. Taller buildings, more people, brighter signs. Finally, they reached a store and walked inside.

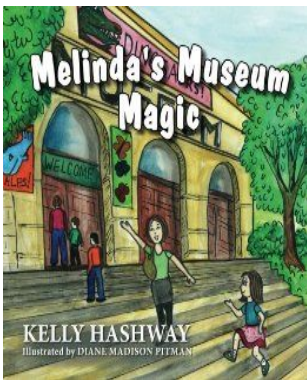
"Whoa!" Emily said. She looked around the toy store in amazement. There were rides in the store. And not little ones either. "This is like a toy store and a carnival in one!"

Emily and Diana went on every ride, and they even played a giant keyboard on the floor by jumping on the keys. Emily had never had so much fun. By the time they left, it was getting dark.

"Let's find a nice place to eat dinner," Dad said.

But Emily just stared at the city all lit up like a Christmas tree. "This is incredible." She was still happy she lived in the country, but she knew she wanted to visit the city again very soon.

About the Author



Kelly Hashway's picture book, *Melinda's Museum Magic*, is now available!

Melinda is taking her first trip to the museum, and her mother promises it will be magical. But when the exhibits start coming to life in ways that only Melinda can see, she'll learn the real magic of the museum.

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1. What is Penn Station?
 - a. a train station in Pennsylvania
 - b. a train station in New York
 - c. a toy store in New York
 - d. the town where Emily lives

2. Based on the information in the story, which sentence is most likely to be true?
 - a. Emily had never been to a toy store.
 - b. Emily had never visited New York City before.
 - c. Emily doesn't get to spend much time with her family.
 - d. Emily is older than her sister, Diana.

Tell why you chose the answer above.

3. How do Emily's feelings about the city change in this story?

4. This story is mostly about...
 - a. A girl who persuades her parents to take her to the city.
 - b. A girl who reads many interesting facts about the city.
 - c. A girl who compares and contrasts the city to her home in the country.
 - d. A girl who gets into trouble while visiting the city.

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The words below are scrambled words from the story. Unscramble each word and write it on the line. Check back in the story to make sure each word is spelled correctly.

1.

u	s	r	g
e	n	h	i

Clue: showing or guiding someone

2.

i	m	n	d
a	e	a	t

Clue: made with moving pictures

3.

h	t	c	u
l	d	c	e

Clue: grasped

4.

s	u
l	h

Clue: thick, rich, and abundant

5.

a	l	a	r
v	c	n	i

Clue: fair

6.

a	d	e	b
r	o	y	k

Clue: piano-like musical instrument

ANSWER KEY

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1. What is Penn Station? **b**
 - a. a train station in Pennsylvania
 - a train station in New York**
 - a. a toy store in New York
 - d. the town where Emily lives

2. Based on the information in the story, which sentence is most likely to be true? **b**
 - a. Emily had never been to a toy store.
 - Emily had never visited New York City before.**
 - c. Emily doesn't get to spend much time with her family.
 - d. Emily is older than her sister, Diana.

Tell why you chose the answer above.

In the story Emily is surprised to see the large buildings, the crowds, and the sights of the city.

3. How do Emily's feelings about the city change in this story?

In the beginning she does not like the city and wishes she were at home. At the end she likes the city and wants to come back.

4. This story is mostly about... **c**
 - a. A girl who persuades her parents to take her to the city.
 - b. A girl who reads many interesting facts about the city.
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1.

u	s	r	g
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ushering

Clue: showing or guiding someone

2.

i	m	n	d
a	e	a	t

animated

Clue: made with moving pictures

3.

h	t	c	u
l	d	c	e

clutched

Clue: grasped

4.

s	u
l	h

lush

Clue: thick, rich, and abundant

5.

a	l	a	r
v	c	n	i

carnival

Clue: fair

6.

a	d	e	b
r	o	y	k

keyboard

Clue: piano-like musical instrument