This listening selection is to be used in administering Book 2 of the English Language Arts Test. The entire selection is to be read aloud twice to the students. For complete directions, please follow the instructions in the Teacher’s Directions.

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The Missing Gym Shoes

by Marilyn Sklar

Kirby looked all over his room for his gym shoes. He looked under his bed and in the closet. He looked in his backpack. Where could they be? Kirby had to have his gym shoes today. The teacher wouldn’t let him play basketball without them.

“Mom, have you seen my gym shoes?”

“No, Kirby. Did you look in your room?”

“I’ve looked everywhere. Dad, can you help me find my gym shoes?”

“Sorry, pal, I have to get to work. I’m already late. Look behind the sofa.”

Kirby checked behind all the furniture. No gym shoes. He was getting very upset. The school bus would arrive in fifteen minutes.

He had to play in the basketball game. The game was for the championship. His classmates were counting on him. He was their best player.

“Kirby, don’t forget to feed Buster before you leave.”

Kirby looked at his dog and sighed, “Come on, Buster. I’ll get your dog food and fresh water.”

Buster perked up his ears and wagged his tail. When he heard the dog food hit his bowl, he jumped out of his bed and came running.

“Good boy, Buster.” Kirby gave his dog a pat on the back. Then Kirby hurried to get his jacket and backpack. He glanced at Buster’s bed. His eyes opened wide.

“Mom, look! I found my gym shoes! Buster has been hiding them in his bed. Buster, why did you do that? I have been going crazy.”

Buster looked up from his bowl and wagged his tail harder.

“Oh, Buster, you are a rascal, but I love you.”

Kirby grabbed his shoes and stuffed them in his backpack.

“Bye, Mom. The bus is here.”

“Bye, Kirby. Play a good game.”