

patient scowled interrupted
bait osprey airplane

Fishing for Memories

On a warm summer day, Joan was going fishing with her grandmother. They climbed into a small boat and rowed out onto the water. Joan studied the waves all around her, looking for a giant fish to catch.

“You have to be patient when you go fishing,” Joan’s grandmother cautioned. “Can you be patient, Joan?”

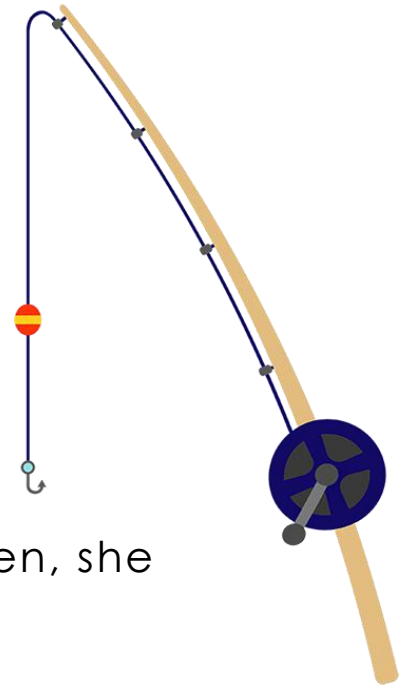


“I’m going to catch all the fish in this pond,” responded Joan confidently. “There won’t be a single one left, Grandma.”

Joan’s grandmother smiled, shook her head and handed Joan a fishing rod. Joan quickly cast her line into the water.

“There’s no bait on your line,” her grandmother said. “Even if there was, you’d still have to wait. Today is about enjoying our time together and relaxing on the water. You don’t have to catch everything in the pond.”

Joan scowled, reeled her fishing line back in and placed a piece of her turkey sandwich on the hook. Then, she cast her line back into the water.



Joan heard her grandmother chuckle as she leaned over the side of their boat and stared into the pond. She tried to see how far down her sandwich had traveled and whether any fish were nibbling on it. However, the water was too murky, and Joan didn’t feel anything tugging on the end of her fishing line.

After a few minutes, a frustrated Joan sighed in disappointment and leaned back in her grandmother’s boat.

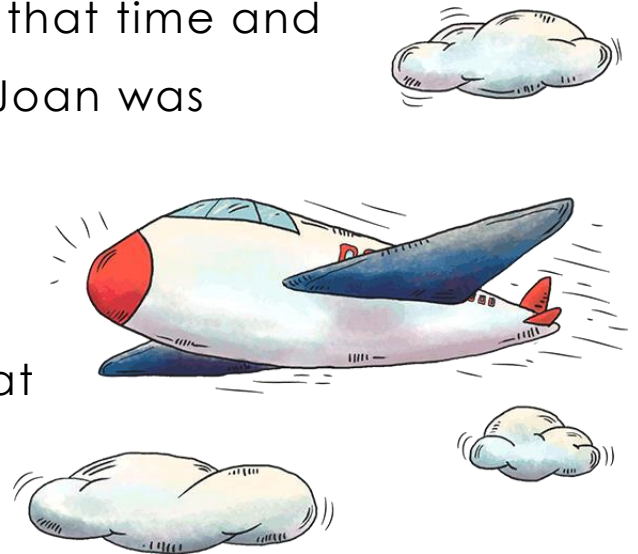
Her grandmother had been watching Joan. Now, she pointed to the sky and said, "Do you see the bird flying up there? That bird is an osprey," her grandmother said. "Ospreys catch fish, too."

Joan watched as the osprey flew in a big circle and then suddenly swooped down to pluck a fish from the water. Joan and her grandmother spoke about how it would feel to fly like a bird.

Then, they talked about the first time her grandmother flew in an airplane, a long time ago. She was about Joan's age at that time and was going to school, just like Joan was now.

Joan and her grandma spoke about Joan's school, and what Grandma's school was like.

In some ways, their schools were different, but in some ways, they were the same. Boys were naughty then, too! Joan and her grandmother laughed at the stories they shared.



Joan was telling her grandma about something that had happened last week at her school assembly, when her grandmother interrupted her. “Joan, look! Your rod is bending!”

Joan reeled in her line. She had caught a fish, a fish that was hungry for a turkey sandwich.

Later that night, Joan thought about her day, but she didn't think about the fish or the turkey sandwich. She thought about the funny stories her grandmother had told her.



Fishing for Memories (exercises)

1. True (T) of False (F)? Circle the right answer. If the story doesn't say the answer, circle (X).

Joan placed a ham sandwich on her fishing hook.	T	F	X
Grandma was wearing jeans and a sweater.	T	F	X
Joan's grandmother pointed out a bald eagle in the sky.	T	F	X
At first, Joan threw her fishing line into the pond without any bait.	T	F	X

2. Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 to put the story events in order.

_____ Joan's grandmother pointed out an osprey in the sky.

_____ Joan put a turkey sandwich on the hook of her fishing line.

_____ Joan caught a fish.

_____ They rowed their boat out onto the pond.

3. Answer in sentences.

a. At the start of the story, what did Joan think was the most important thing about going fishing?

- b. At the start of the story, what did Joan's grandmother think was the most important thing about going fishing?

4. What did Joan remember the most about her fishing trip?

- a. Joan thought catching a lot of fish was the most important thing.
- b. Joan's grandmother thought being together and relaxing was the most important thing.
- c. Joan remembered her grandmother's stories the most.

Fishing for Memories (answers)

1. True (T) of False (F)? Circle the right answer. If the story doesn't say the answer, circle (X).

Joan placed a ham sandwich on her fishing hook.	T	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> X
Grandma was wearing jeans and a sweater.	T	<input type="radio"/> F	<input checked="" type="radio"/> X
Joan's grandmother pointed out a bald eagle in the sky.	T	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> X
At first, Joan threw her fishing line into the pond without any bait.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> T	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> X

2. Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 to put the story events in order.

3, 2, 4, 1.

3. Answer in sentences.

- Joan thought catching a lot of fish was the most important thing.
- Joan's grandmother thought being together and relaxing was the most important thing.

4. At the end of the story, what did Joan remember the most about her fishing trip?

- Joan remembered her grandmother's stories the most.