

Name _____



Hidden Meanings

Directions: Read the story carefully. Each bolded expression is a common saying. Use clues from the story to figure out what each expression really means. Write what you think it means on the lines that follow each question.

The Big Surprise

Maya's little brother, Ethan, couldn't keep a secret to save his life. Last week, the whole family planned a surprise party for their dad's birthday. Everyone was excited—except Maya, who worried Ethan might **spill the beans**.

On the day of the party, Ethan almost told their dad when he asked why Maya kept whispering. Maya gave him a look that could **freeze time**, and luckily, he stayed quiet. When their dad finally walked in, everyone shouted "Surprise!" Dad's eyes widened, and Maya felt like the cat who **got the cream**—proud and happy that everything went perfectly.

That night, their mom patted Maya's shoulder and said, "You really **saved the day**." Maya smiled, knowing it was all worth it.

Questions:

1. What does **spill the beans** mean?

2. What does **got the cream** mean?

3. What does **saved the day** mean?
