



Name _____

The Newcomer

Directions: Read the story carefully. Then answer the comprehension and reflection questions that follow.

When Ava walked into the cafeteria on her first day at a new school, she held her lunch tray tightly and looked around for a place to sit. Every table seemed full, and the chatter felt louder than she expected. Just as she started to head for an empty corner, a student named Riley waved her over.

"Hey, you can sit with us!" Riley said, moving her backpack to make room. Ava smiled nervously and sat down. The group asked her questions about her old school and what she liked to do for fun. Soon, Ava was laughing as they discovered they shared a love for drawing and music. By the end of lunch, she felt like she belonged. That night, Ava wrote in her journal that kindness can turn a scary moment into something wonderful.

1. Why was Ava nervous when she entered the cafeteria?

2. What did Riley do that showed kindness and inclusion?

3. How did Ava's feelings change by the end of the story?

4. What can this story teach us about helping new students?

5. Write about a time when you helped someone feel included or when someone helped you.
