

Emma Decides Answer Key

Possible Answers (students may phrase differently):

1. **Why did Emma want to keep the puppy?**
 - Because it looked lonely and cute. (Text evidence: "Emma wanted to keep the puppy because it looked lonely and cute.")
2. **Why might it be important for Emma to find the puppy's owner?**
 - The owner could be worried and searching for their pet.
3. **How did Emma show she was thinking carefully about her decision?**
 - She considered both choices: keeping the puppy or returning it to its owner.
4. **If you were Emma, what would you do, and why?**
 - Answers will vary, but should be supported with reasoning (e.g., "I would try to find the owner because the puppy belongs to them" or "I would take it home and ask my parents to help find the owner").

Teacher Notes:

- Stress that critical thinking questions don't always have one "right" answer, but students must use **text details** to explain their reasoning.
- Encourage the use of sentence starters such as *"In the story it says..."* or *"Emma thought about..."* to cite evidence.
- Extension: Students could role-play Emma's decision by writing a letter or short journal entry from her point of view.