Question of the Week

When does a creative idea lead to a surprise?

Key Comprehension Skill
Sequence

Concept Words
hero disaster success

In this book, I will learn:
• Help from friends can solve problems.
• We can express ideas with art.
Mr. Brown’s second graders were getting ready for American Hero Day. They were making masks of their favorite American heroes.

Suddenly, a cat ran inside the school and stepped in paint. It stepped all over the children’s work. It got paint on many of the children’s masks. What a disaster!

“What can we do?” asked Jin. “Our families are coming to see the masks tonight! Now some of the masks are ruined!”

“We can paint new masks,” Mary said.

“We can’t paint new masks. There isn’t enough time,” said Mr. Brown.

“I have an idea,” said Carlos. “Do you remember our visit to Baker School? They had an American Hero Day too. Maybe we can borrow their masks.”

“That’s a great idea!” said Mr. Brown.

Mr. Brown called Mrs. Clay at Baker School.

“May we borrow some of your masks for our American Hero Day?” he asked.

“Of course you can borrow our masks!” Mrs. Clay said. She soon came with many masks.

“Mrs. Clay is our hero!” cried Mary.
The parents came to the school. Everyone was excited. Then the show began. The second graders came on stage. Some had their own masks. Some had masks from Baker School.

“I’m Sally Ride,” Mary said. “I was the first American woman in space.”
“I’m George Washington,” Greg said. “I was the first President.”
“I’m Abraham Lincoln,” Thomas said. “I helped all Americans to be free.”

The show was a big success. Everyone clapped for the American heroes. Everyone clapped for the second graders.

Then Mr. Brown said, “Today our show was almost ruined. But Carlos had a super idea. Carlos was our hero today!”

Talk About It
1. What problem did the second graders have? How did they solve it?
2. What makes a person a hero?

Write About It
3. Do you have a hero? On a separate sheet of paper, draw a picture or mask of your hero. Write about him or her.

Extend Language
The words their masks means “masks that belong to them.” What do the words our masks mean? Should the owner of a mask say “my mask” or “your mask”?