

GRADE 8

Strong reading skills are the foundation learning!

Is your child struggling with reading comprehension, fluency, or vocabulary?

Brighterly's expert reading tutors make lessons fun, personalized, and effective - whether your child is just starting out or ready to level up their literacy skills.

From phonics to reading confidence, we're here to help your child love reading - and get better at it every day.



Why Learn with Brighterly? ✨



Assessment-Based Learning



Custom Curriculum



Homework Support



Engaging Platform

 **Read the passage carefully and choose the letter of the correct answer.**

The Secret in the Garden



Anna loved to read, but her family had recently moved into an old countryside house where the nearest library was miles away. Exploring the new backyard one morning, she discovered a locked iron gate almost hidden behind a wall of ivy. The keyhole was rusty, but curiosity burned inside her.

For days, Anna wondered about the gate. One afternoon, she noticed her elderly neighbor, Mr. Whitaker, trimming his hedges. Gathering her courage, she asked, "Do you know what's behind the gate?"

Mr. Whitaker smiled mysteriously. "That garden once belonged to the family who lived here a hundred years ago. It was filled with roses and apple trees. But after they moved away, the gate was locked, and no one has stepped inside since."

That evening, Anna couldn't stop thinking about the forgotten garden. She began to imagine what it might look like—flowers growing wild, vines climbing broken statues, birds nesting in old branches.

The next morning, while searching the shed, Anna discovered an old, dusty box. Inside lay a small brass key. Heart pounding, she hurried to the gate, slipped the key into the lock, and with effort, turned it. The gate creaked open.

Inside, the garden was overgrown but breathtaking. Sunlight filtered through tangled trees, and roses, though wild, still bloomed in bright red clusters. Anna felt as though she had stepped into a storybook. She ran back to the house, eager to grab her journal, certain this hidden garden would become her favorite place to dream, read, and write her own adventures.

Q1: Why does the author describe the gate as “almost hidden behind a wall of ivy”?

- A. To show the garden was unimportant
- B. To suggest the gate was newly built
- C. To warn Anna not to enter
- D. To symbolize secrets waiting to be discovered

Q2: What does Anna’s curiosity about the gate reveal about her character?

- A. She is imaginative and adventurous
- B. She is cautious and fearful
- C. She prefers rules and routines
- D. She dislikes surprises

Q3: Mr. Whitaker’s smile when talking about the garden suggests that he:

- A. Wanted to hide the truth from Anna
- B. Felt nostalgic about the past
- C. Did not know the garden’s history
- D. Was angry she asked about it

Q4: Why does the author describe Anna imagining the garden before entering it?

- A. To show she was nervous
- B. To prove she already knew what was inside
- C. To explain that she didn’t want to open the gate
- D. To highlight her creativity and anticipation

Q5: When Anna finds the brass key, what theme does this moment emphasize?

- A.** Patience is always rewarded
- B.** Curiosity and persistence lead to discovery
- C.** Adults should always guide children
- D.** Some mysteries should remain unsolved

Q6: What is the effect of the description “the gate creaked open”?

- A.** It adds suspense and atmosphere
- B.** It shows the gate was new
- C.** It proves the garden was empty
- D.** It makes the setting less interesting

Q7: What does the overgrown but beautiful garden symbolize?

- A.** The wealth of the past owners
- B.** The danger of exploring alone
- C.** The passage of time and forgotten beauty
- D.** The importance of keeping secrets

Q8: Why might the author have chosen to set the story in the countryside instead of the city?

- A.** To highlight her dislike of reading
- B.** To show she had no friends
- C.** To make Anna feel more isolated and curious
- D.** To explain why Mr. Whitaker was lonely

Q9: Which of the following best explains why Anna felt she had “stepped into a storybook”?

- A. The garden was filled with magical creatures
- B. She had read about the same garden before
- C. The scene was so enchanting it felt unreal
- D. She was pretending she was in a fairy tale

Q10: How does the discovery of the garden change Anna’s outlook?

- A. She begins to dislike the countryside more
- B. She forgets about her love for books
- C. She sees her new home as a place of wonder
- D. She decides to move back to the city

Q11: Which statement best expresses the central theme of the story?

- A. Hidden places can be dangerous
- B. Imagination and curiosity can lead to unexpected joy
- C. Adults should protect secrets from children
- D. Beauty fades with time

Q12: How does Anna’s discovery connect to her love for reading?

- A. Both allow her to escape reality and enter new worlds
- B. Both are difficult and frustrating
- C. Both depend on her parents’ approval
- D. Both stop her from making new friends

Q13: What might the garden foreshadow for Anna's future?

- A.** She will struggle with loneliness
- B.** She will stop reading books
- C.** She will create her own adventures as a writer
- D.** She will abandon the house forever

Q14: If the author continued the story, what would be the most likely outcome?

- A.** The family sells the house and moves away
- B.** The garden becomes a dangerous place
- C.** Mr. Whitaker locks the gate again
- D.** Anna invites others to explore the garden with her

Q15: Which lesson can readers apply to their own lives from Anna's story?

- A.** Curiosity and imagination help us see beauty in unexpected places
- B.** Secrets are best left alone
- C.** Exploring new places is always safe
- D.** Change always leads to disappointment



✓ Right Answers

Q1: Why does the author describe the gate as “almost hidden behind a wall of ivy”?

- A. To show the garden was unimportant
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Answer: D. To symbolize secrets waiting to be discovered

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Answer: A. She is imaginative and adventurous

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Answer: B. Felt nostalgic about the past

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- A. To show she was nervous
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Answer: D. To highlight her creativity and anticipation

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Answer: **B.** Curiosity and persistence lead to discovery

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Answer: **A.** It adds suspense and atmosphere

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Answer: **C.** The passage of time and forgotten beauty

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Answer: **C.** To make Anna feel more isolated and curious

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Answer: C. The scene was so enchanting it felt unreal

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Answer: A. Both allow her to escape reality and enter new worlds

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Answer: A. Curiosity and imagination help us see beauty in unexpected places