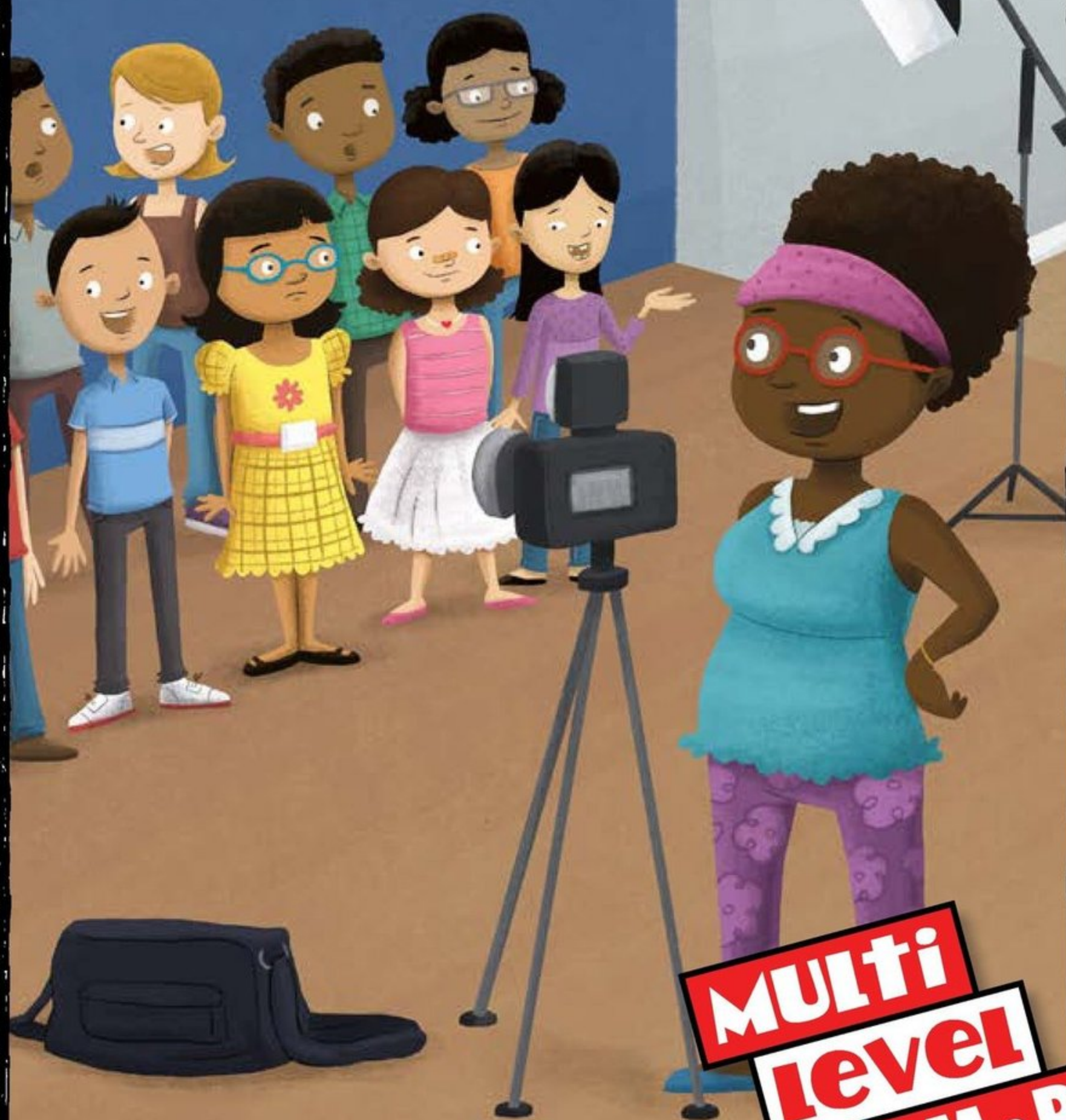


LEVELED BOOK • P

Picture Day



**Multi
level
J•M•P**

Written by Jill Sherman • Illustrated by Marcus Cutler

www.readinga-z.com

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Focus Question

What lesson did Poppy learn
on picture day?

Words to Know	
appointment	photographer
beaded	reflection
clasp	stain
lenses	target
permanent	

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 Level P Leveled Book
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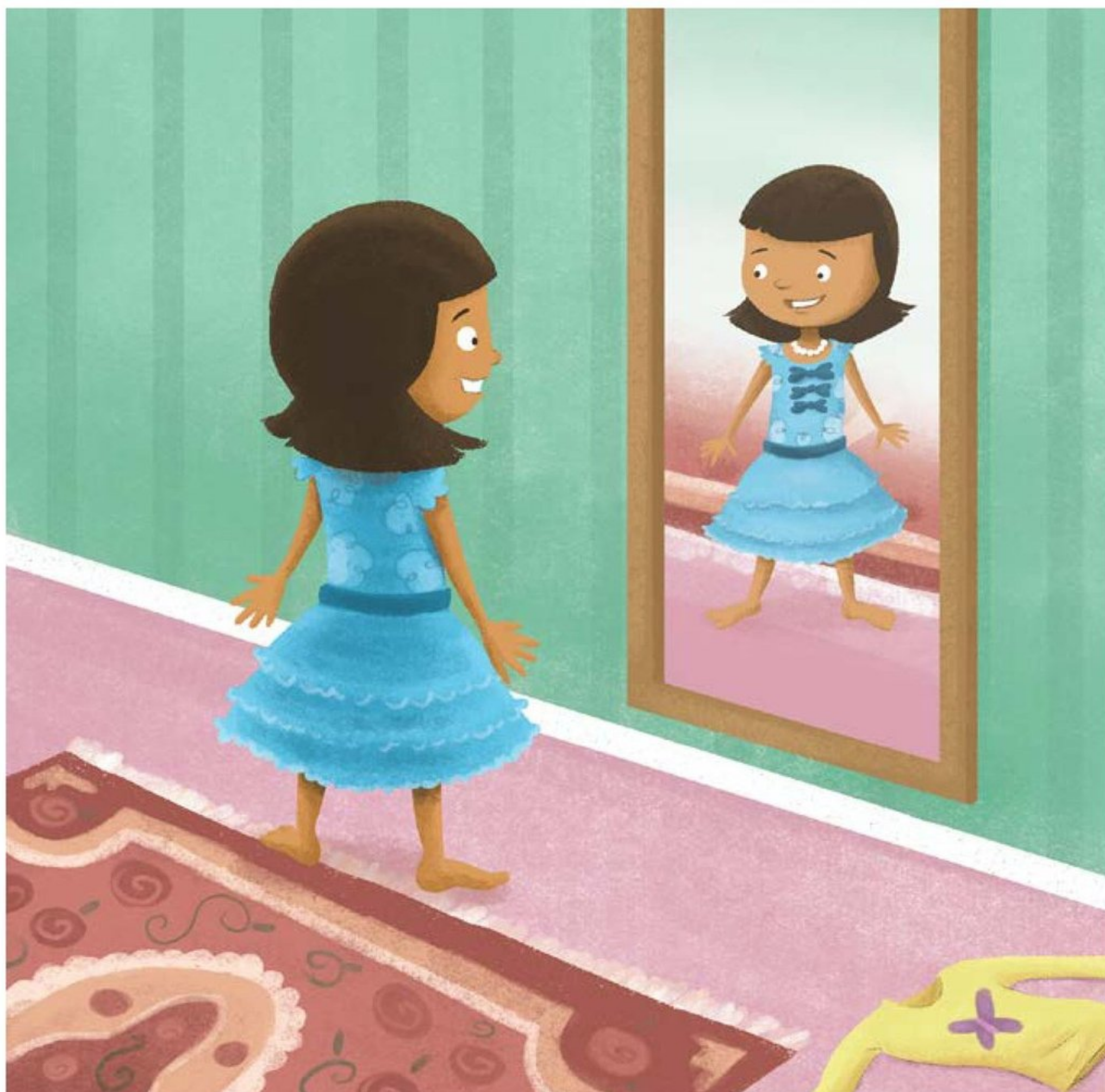
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Poppy's Picture Prep

Poppy beamed at her **reflection** in the mirror. Her new dress was absolutely perfect. It was her favorite shade of blue and had a row of bows down the front. She adjusted her **beaded** necklace.

All she needed now were her fancy dress shoes.



“Mom!” Poppy exclaimed as she ran into the kitchen. “Have you seen my dress shoes?”

Poppy’s mother was making her famous fruit punch. “My goodness, sweetheart, why are you all dressed up today?” she asked.

“I’m trying on my dress for picture day tomorrow,” Poppy explained. “I want to make sure everything is perfect.”

“Well, I think you’re already perfect,” her mom said. “I’ll go get your shoes. Be careful—don’t drink the punch until you change out of your new dress,” Poppy’s mom advised.



Poppy rolled her eyes. Her mom didn't understand that picture day was seriously important. It was **permanent**. Her class picture would be in the yearbook *forever*.

Poppy grabbed a cup of punch and started to gulp it down. Returning to the kitchen with the shoes, Poppy's mom yelled, "Oh, sweetheart—you spilled your punch!"



Gasping, Poppy looked down. She couldn't go to school picture day like this!

"It'll be all right," her mom said positively. "I'll wash it tonight. It'll be good as new. Now, get changed. We have an **appointment** with the eye doctor, remember?"

Picture Framed

At Dr. Chen's office, Poppy was lost in her thoughts, barely listening to the doctor. She wondered if her mom would be able to get the **stain** out of her dress.

"Why don't you go and choose a pair of frames?" Dr. Chen suggested.



Poppy looked up, confused. "Frames?" she asked.

"Yes," Dr. Chen said gently. "It's the part of the glasses that holds the **lenses**."

Glasses! Poppy blinked. "Mom, do I have to?" she pleaded.

"I'm afraid so, sweetheart," her mom replied. "You'll need to wear them most of the time."



Poppy hung her head. Everyone knew that glasses were totally goofy, but it would be nice to read the blackboard more clearly.

“We have many different styles. Pick out whichever style you like best,” said Dr. Chen politely.

“They’ll be ready by tomorrow afternoon,” he assured them kindly.

Poppy breathed a sigh of relief. At least she wouldn’t have to wear those goofy glasses on picture day.

The Big Day

The next morning, Poppy snatched her blue dress out of the laundry basket. She pulled it over her head, but something wasn't right. She felt like a stuffed sausage. Poppy couldn't lower her arms, and the bows pulled tightly.

"Oh, no!" Poppy cried. "My dress shrank in the wash!" She ran to her closet.

Surely there was something else she could wear.

Finally, in the back of the closet, Poppy found a yellow plaid dress. Yellow was her least favorite color, and the sleeves were puffy. They looked like giant balloons! Nevertheless, the dress would have to do.





At least she still had her beaded necklace. Poppy started to secure the **clasp**, but something became stuck. She gave a quick, gentle tug. *Snap!*

The necklace burst apart, scattering beads around her feet. Poppy scrambled to gather them up. What else could go wrong today?

“Hurry up!” her mom yelled. “Your glasses are ready early. We have just enough time to pick them up before school.”



Picture Perfect

Waiting with the other second graders, Poppy kept playing with her glasses. She hoped her class's turn would never come. Maybe the camera would break or a fire drill would start! She wanted something to happen so she didn't have to take this lousy picture.

Next to her, Raúl fussed with his hair. "You're lucky your parents didn't make you get a haircut," he complained. "I hate this short hair!"

"That's nothing," said Lei. "At least you can still smile for the camera. Look at this!" Lei flashed a jack-o'-lantern grin, showing several missing teeth.



Poppy looked around at her classmates. Rosa had a bandage taped across her nose. Gabe was pulling at his pants, trying to hide his mismatched socks. Evan's broken arm was still in a cast.

"I guess we all have something we don't like about our looks. None of us is perfect," Poppy said.



“All right, second graders,” the **photographer** called. “You’re up!” The class marched onstage. “What a great-looking bunch!” she shouted cheerfully.

The photographer arranged the class, moving Poppy front and center. She felt noticeable, like a big goofy **target**. *Maybe it would be okay if I took the glasses off for just a minute,* she thought. She was starting to remove them when the photographer leaned close and whispered, “Nice glasses.” She winked from behind her own funky red frames.



Poppy smiled and glanced at her classmates. She thought about how each one of them had been nervous for picture day. They couldn't take off a bad haircut or hide a broken arm.

We're all different, she thought. *Maybe that's what makes us special.* She decided to wear her glasses for the picture.

"Cheese!" the class called out.

Poppy smiled her brightest. Picture day hadn't gone the way she had planned. It had gone even better.

The flash went off as the photographer snapped the picture. "Perfect!" she cried.

Glossary

appointment (<i>n.</i>)	an agreement to meet at a certain time (p. 7)
beaded (<i>adj.</i>)	having small pieces of stone, glass, or other materials that are strung together (p. 4)
clasp (<i>n.</i>)	a small device used to connect two parts of something, such as a necklace (p. 11)
lenses (<i>n.</i>)	the curved pieces of glass or plastic in eyeglasses that help people see better (p. 8)
permanent (<i>adj.</i>)	lasting or meant to last forever; not changing (p. 6)
photographer (<i>n.</i>)	a person who makes photographs, or pictures, with a camera (p. 14)
reflection (<i>n.</i>)	an image made by light bouncing off something, such as a mirror (p. 4)
stain (<i>n.</i>)	a colored or dirty mark that is hard to remove (p. 8)
target (<i>n.</i>)	a point or object at which someone aims (p. 14)

Picture Day

A Reading A-Z Level P Leveled Book

Word Count: 866

Connections

Writing

Do you like picture day? Write a paragraph to explain your answer.

Math

There are twenty-four students in Poppy's class. Draw at least three different ways they can stand in equal rows for their class picture. Share your work with a partner.



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