

# My Dad, the Superhero

"Wake up!" said Sam to his dad.

On Father's Day, Sam and his dad always spent the day together. Last year, they rode roller coasters. The year before that, they went to a football match.

"Okay," said Dad as he got out of bed and into his wheelchair. "Mum made your favourite breakfast," said Sam.

Dad and Sam went to the kitchen. Mum was making pancakes. "What are you going to do today?" Mum asked with a smile.

"We can go see the new superhero movie!" said Sam. "Good idea," said Dad. Just then, the phone rang.

When Dad hung up the phone, he said, "I'm sorry, but I have to go to work." Sam was so very sad.



"I have an idea," Dad said, "You can come to work with me."

Sam smiled and ran to his room to get ready. He had never seen his dad at work, and hoped it would be fun.

Sam was shocked when they arrived at the zoo. His dad had keys that

opened every door. Inside was a room with a zookeeper and two nurses. They clapped when his dad came in and thanked him for coming so quickly.

In the corner of the room was a black and white panda. The panda was upset. "This is my patient," Dad said.

After an hour, Sam's dad was holding four tiny panda cubs. Sam's dad handed one to Sam. He was so proud of his dad. He thought his dad was just like a superhero.



"This is the best Father's Day," said Sam to his dad. "I get to hold a panda cub, and I learned that you are a superhero!"

# Questions

Read each statement. Write 'T' if you think it is true, or 'F' if you think it is false.

1. Sam's dad wakes Sam up.
2. Sam and his dad rode roller coasters last year.
3. Dad's favourite breakfast is pancakes.
4. Sam wants to go fishing for Father's Day.
5. Mum answered the phone.
6. Dad has to go to work on Father's Day.
7. The panda has black and brown fur.
8. Dad works at the supermarket.
9. The mumma panda had 6 cubs.
10. Sam thinks his dad is like a superhero.

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# Answers

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F

T

T

F

F

T

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F

F

T

# My Dad, the Superhero

"Wake up!" Sam cheered as he shook his sleeping father.

Sam loved Father's Day because the two of them always spent the day together doing something fun. Last year, they went to an amusement park and rode the roller coasters. The year before that, they went to a football match.

"Alright," Dad yawned as he stretched and crawled out of bed into his wheelchair. "Hurry, Dad," said Sam. "Mum made your favourite breakfast – blueberry pancakes!"

Dad followed Sam down the hall and into the kitchen, where Mum was pouring the last drop of syrup onto the pancakes.

"What adventure do you have planned for today?" Mum asked. "Hmmm..." thought Dad. "Maybe we can go to the lake and go fishing."



"Or maybe we can go and see the new superhero movie," exclaimed Sam. "Great idea," agreed Dad. The two of them had always loved superhero comics. Just then, the phone rang.

Sam heard his dad say, "Right now?" and then after a pause, "Keep calm and I will be right there."

Sam's heart sank. He knew what his dad was going to say before

he even got back to the kitchen. His dad always got called into work at the worst times.

"I'm sorry, but I have to go to work," Dad said. "But Dad!" whined Sam, "It's Father's Day and we always spend it together!"

"I know, son," Dad replied, "But this is really important and I need to go."

Sam's lips curled down. "I have an idea," Dad perked up. "Why don't you come with me?"

"Really?" Sam said in surprise. "I would love to!"

Sam ran to his room to get ready. He had never seen his dad at work, and even though it wasn't a roller coaster or football match, it would be still be fun to spend time with his dad.

Sam's dad led them past the 'Employees Only' door. Inside was a room with nurses and a nervous zookeeper. All of them clapped as Sam's dad entered the room. In the corner of the room was a large black and white panda lying on her side. She was groaning and upset. "This is my patient, Sam," Dad said calmly.



Dad slowly made his way over to the mumma panda. He gave her some medicine and gently stroked her thick fur. Sam's eyes were wide with amazement to see his dad being so brave. His dad was like a superhero, there to save the day.

After an hour, Sam's dad was holding four pink panda cubs. He washed the cubs, rubbed their stomachs, and fed them warm milk from a bottle.



"Sam," Dad called. "Come here and meet the newest attraction for the zoo." Sam walked slowly over to his dad. He handed Sam a panda and the bottle.

"This is the best Father's Day yet," smiled Sam. "Not only do I get to hold a panda cub, but I also learned that you are a superhero!"

# Questions

1. Tick **two** activities that Sam and his dad have done before on Father's Day.

- ☐ fishing at the lake
- ☐ going to a football match
- ☐ seeing a movie
- ☐ riding roller coasters

2. What was the main problem in the story? Tick **one**.

- ☐ Mum hadn't made any breakfast
- ☐ the cinema was closed
- ☐ Dad had to go to work

3. How was this problem solved? Tick **one**.

- ☐ Sam went to the park with his mum
- ☐ Sam went to the zoo with his sister
- ☐ Sam went to work with his dad

4. Which special door did Sam's dad lead them past?

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5. Why does Sam think this is the best Father's Day yet?

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# Answers

1. Tick **two** activities that Sam and his dad have done before on Father's Day.
  - ☐ fishing at the lake
  - ☒ **going to a football match**
  - ☐ seeing a movie
  - ☒ **riding roller coasters**
2. What was the main problem in the story? Tick one.
  - ☐ Mum hadn't made any breakfast
  - ☐ the cinema was closed
  - ☒ **Dad had to go to work**
3. How was this problem solved? Tick one.
  - ☐ Sam went to the park with his mum
  - ☐ Sam went to the zoo with his sister
  - ☒ **Sam went to work with his dad**
4. Which special door did Sam's dad lead them past?  
Sam's dad led them past the 'Employees Only' door.
5. Why does Sam think this is the best Father's Day yet?  
Sam thinks this is the best Father's Day yet because he got to hold a baby panda and he learned that his dad is a superhero.

# My Dad, the Superhero

"Wake up, wake up, wake up!" Sam cheered as he shook his sleeping father.

Sam loved Father's Day. To him, it was one of the best days of the year because on Father's Day, the two of them always spent the day together doing something fun. Last year, they went to an amusement park and spent the day riding the same roller coasters five times each. The year before that, they went to a football match and watched their favourite team win the Cup.

"Alright," Dad yawned, as he stretched his arms upward and crawled out of bed into his wheelchair. "Hurry, Dad," said Sam. "Mum made your favourite breakfast – blueberry pancakes and bacon!"



Dad followed Sam down the hall and into the kitchen, where Mum was pouring the last drop of syrup onto the buttered pancakes.

"So, boys, what adventure do you have planned for today?" Mum asked with a large grin across her face. "Hmmm..." thought Dad. "Maybe we can go to the lake and go fishing."

"Or maybe we can go and see the new superhero movie," exclaimed Sam. "That's a great idea," agreed Dad. The two of them had always shared a love of superhero comics and action figures. Just then, the phone began to ring from the living room.

Dad went to the phone, and all Sam could hear was Dad's response to whoever was on the other side of the call. "Right now?" Dad asked, surprised. "Ok, great. Keep calm and I will be right there."

Sam's heart sank. He already knew what his dad was going to say before he even returned to the kitchen. His dad always got called into work at the worst times.

"I'm sorry, but I have to go to work," Dad announced. "But Dad!" whined Sam. "It's Father's Day and we always spend it together!"

"I know son," Dad replied. "But this is really important and I need to go."

Dad noticed Sam's lips curl down and his brow scrunch up. "I have an idea," Dad perked up. "Why don't you come with me?"

"Really?" Sam said in surprise. "I would love to!"

Sam jumped from his seat at the kitchen table, and ran to his room to get ready. He had never seen his dad at work, and even though it wasn't a roller coaster or football match, it would still be fun to spend time with his dad.

Sam was shocked when they arrived to the city zoo. His dad led them past the 'Employees Only' door and down a narrow hallway to a back room. The room had a couple of nurses and an anxious-looking zookeeper. All of them took a breath of



relief and clapped as his dad entered the room. They hurried over to thank him for coming so quickly. In the corner of the room was a large black and white panda, lying on her side. She was groaning loudly and seemed to be very upset. "This is my patient, Sam," Dad said calmly.

Dad checked in with the nurses, and slowly made his way over to the mumma panda. He gave the mumma panda some medicine and gently stroked her thick fur. Sam's eyes were wide with amazement to see his dad being so brave. His dad was like a superhero, there to save the day. It made Sam very proud.

After an hour, Sam's dad was holding four pink newborn panda cubs. He washed the cubs, rubbed their stomachs, and fed them warm milk from a bottle.

"Sam," Dad called. "Come here and meet the newest attraction at the zoo." Sam walked slowly over to his dad and knelt down beside him. His dad handed Sam a newborn panda and the bottle.



"This is the best Father's Day yet," beamed Sam. "Not only do I get to hold a panda cub, but I also learned that you are a superhero!"

# Questions

1. Name two activities Sam and his dad have done before on Father's Day.

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2. What was the main problem in the story?

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3. How was this problem solved?

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4. Why does Sam think his dad is like a superhero?

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5. Do you think Sam's dad is a good veterinarian? Why?

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# Answers

1. Name two activities Sam and his dad have done before on Father's Day.  
They went to an amusement park and they went to a football match.
2. What was the main problem in the story?  
Sam's dad had to go to work on Father's Day.  
  
or  
  
The panda was unwell/needed help having her babies.
3. How was this problem solved?  
Sam went with his dad to work.  
  
or  
  
Sam's dad gave the panda some medicine and helped her have her babies.
4. Why does Sam think his dad is like a superhero?  
Sam thinks his dad is like a superhero because he helped a mumma panda have her babies.
5. Do you think Sam's dad is a good veterinarian? Why?  
Children's own responses.