

Freeing Billy

Who Owns What?

Benny peered through cracks in his neighbours' fences to see if any had a dog. While none of them had dogs, they did have pets. Use the clues and table below to match up each family with a coloured house and pet.

**Hint: read the clues then tick or cross the corresponding boxes.*

Clues:

The Wing's house is not brown and they don't have a cat.

The fish does not live in the brown house.

Mrs Papa's house is blue.

The bird does not belong to the Mitchell's or live in the white house.

	White house	Brown house	Blue house	Fish	Cat	Bird
Wings						
Mitchells						
Mrs Papas						
Fish						
Cat						
Bird						

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Billy's Eyes

Billy's eyes give two messages to Benny during the book. The first message is 'Talk to me,' while the second is 'Take me for a run.' As you read the statements you can probably picture Billy's eyes in your imagination. Complete the table by drawing Billy's eyes to match his messages. The final two rows have been left blank for you to make up your own.

Message	Picture of Billy's eyes
Talk to me	
Take me for a run	
Get me a drink of water	
I'm excited to see you	
Let me out of here!	
I hate being stuck in this yard	

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What's Billy Thinking?

Billy is stuck in the yard for days on end. What thoughts do you think go through his mind? Pretending you are Billy, write a diary about your day. How does it feel to be locked up? What do you do to keep yourself entertained? How does your body feel with no food?

A day in the life of Billy...

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Did the Owner Deserve a Dog?

Benny says the owner of Billy doesn't deserve a dog. After we find out that the owner had left Billy in the backyard all alone, Benny is proven correct. Imagine a rule was put in place that people who wanted to keep a dog had to pass a responsibility test. Fill out the PTI table writing the positive, negative and interesting aspects of a dog ownership test. One example has been done for you in each column.

Positives	Negatives	Interesting
<p>*Dogs would have owners who would always feed them</p>	<p>*Dogs might teach some irresponsible people to be responsible</p>	<p>*If people don't pass the dog ownership test, can they own other animals?</p>

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Who Deserves a Dog?

Benny says the owner of Billy doesn't deserve a dog. After we find out that the owner had left Billy in the backyard all alone, Benny is proven correct. Your job is to create a questionnaire to test if people are responsible enough to look after a dog. Your questions need to cover all the areas people need to consider if they are thinking about getting a dog. The areas could include: money to buy dog food, knowledge of dog needs, time to spend with the dog and many others.

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Names

Benny decides to name the dog Billy as he is big and strong like Benny and Astrid's grandfather. Look at the names below and consider which ones would also have been suitable for Billy. Explain your reasoning for each name.

Tiger suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

Buddy suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

Jack suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

Bear suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

Major suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

Spot suitable/unsuitable your reason: _____

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Was It Right?

Benny makes many decisions throughout the story. Some people may think the things he did were right. Others may think otherwise. Answer the following statements about things Billy did and say whether you think he did the right or wrong thing. Remember, there are no wrong answers. You must include information from the book to justify your opinions.

Benny shouldn't have stuck his head through the fence and peered into his neighbours' yards.

Benny was right to give Billy food while he was trapped in the yard.

Benny shouldn't have let Billy inside his house.

Benny was right to let Billy go live in the hills.
