



GRADE 3 · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

STORY ELEMENTS

CCSS RL.3.1, RL.3.3 · VA SOL 3.5

Characters: Josie, her cousin Gus, Grandma, and the little man in the snow globe

Setting: Grandma's tall, old house (the attic, the bedroom, and the snowy backyard) the week before Christmas

Problem: Every time the snow in the globe falls, the little man takes a step closer to the glass and gets bigger. When he reaches the glass, he will get out.

Solution: On the coldest night of the year, Josie and Gus pack the globe in a snowbank. The water freezes, and the man freezes halfway out. They bury the globe behind Grandma's garage.

WHAT HAPPENED FIRST?

CCSS RL.3.2, RL.3.3 · VA SOL 3.5

- 1:** Gus opens a box marked DON'T and finds an old snow globe.
- 2:** Gus shakes the globe five times, and the little man turns to face them.
- 3:** The globe rocks by itself in the night, and in the morning the man is bigger.
- 4:** Grandma starts to shake the globe, and Josie yells, "DON'T!"
- 5:** Josie figures out that if the water freezes, the snow can't fall.
- 6:** Josie and Gus pack the globe in a snowbank, and a white hand grabs Josie's finger.
- 7:** In March, Grandma finds the globe cracked and empty.

WORD DETECTIVE

CCSS RL.3.4, L.3.4a · VA SOL 3.4

drift: a pile of snow that has been pushed together

settles: comes to rest at the bottom

lunge: jump forward fast and all at once

frostnip: a small hurt to the skin from being out in the cold

INSIDE THE GLOBE

CCSS RL.3.7, W.3.3 · VA SOL 3.5, 3.7

Answers will vary. Look for: The drawing shows the house, the tree, the gate, and the man. The details match the story. The sentences tell what the writer would do.





GRADE 4 · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

CCSS RL.4.1, RL.4.3 · VA SOL 4.5

Gus shakes the snow globe five times.: The little man moves five steps closer and turns to face them.

The globe rattles by itself at night.: The man gets closer and bigger even when nobody touches it.

Josie's foot slips on the last stair, and the globe tips.: The snow swirls, the man takes a step, and the crack gets longer.

The water inside the globe freezes solid.: The man is stuck and the hand stops pulling, so Josie can pull her finger free.

THEME DETECTIVE

CCSS RL.4.2 · VA SOL 4.5

1. Grandma says, "Don't you two go up in that attic," and the box says DON'T. What happens because Gus doesn't listen?: He opens the box and shakes the globe five times, and the little man starts coming toward the glass.

2. Gus tells Josie, "I shook it on purpose. The first time. To scare you." Why do you think he tells the truth? How does he help after that?: He feels bad and wants to make it right. He holds the flashlight, packs snow around the globe, and pulls Josie away from the hand.

3. What lesson does the author want readers to learn? Use one detail from the story to explain.:
Possible answers: Warnings are there for a reason (the box says DON'T). Or: when you make a mistake, own it and help fix it (Gus says sorry and helps). Or: stop and think to solve a hard problem (Josie figures out that frozen water stops the snow).

WHO IS JOSIE?

CCSS RL.4.1, RL.4.3 · VA SOL 4.5

careful: She sets the globe down so gently that not one single flake moves.

smart: She figures out that snow globes are just water, so freezing it will stop the snow from falling.

observant: She remembers everything, and she puts gold star stickers on the glass to track how fast he's coming.

Other traits are fine if the evidence supports them.

THE NEXT BOX

CCSS W.4.3 · VA SOL 4.7

Answers will vary. Look for: Has a clear beginning, middle, and end. Describes what the narrator sees, hears, or feels. The word on the box matters to what happens.





GRADE 5 • ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

READ BETWEEN THE LINES

CCSS RL.5.1 • VA SOL 5.5

1. Grandma says the globe was her grandmother's. Who do you think wrote DON'T on the box, and why?: Someone in Grandma's family who knew what the globe did, maybe her grandmother. They wanted to warn anyone who found it never to shake it.
2. What do you think the man's big, empty sack is for? What clue makes you think so?: To carry off a kid. Josie says the sack is "Big enough for a kid," and the hand pulls her toward "the big empty sack."
3. At the end, Grandma says the globe is cracked and "it's empty." What happened, and why is that scary?: In spring, the snow melted and the ice inside the globe thawed, so the man could move again. He got out through the crack, and now he is loose somewhere.

PLOT MOUNTAIN

CCSS RL.5.2, RL.5.5 • VA SOL 5.5

Exposition: Josie and her cousin Gus spend the week before Christmas at Grandma's and find a snow globe in a box marked DON'T.

Rising action: Every time the snow falls, the little man steps closer and grows. The globe shakes itself at night, Grandma almost shakes it, and a crack appears under his hand.

Climax: In the snowbank, the man's hand squeezes out through the crack, grabs Josie's finger, and pulls.

Falling action: The ice spreads over the man and freezes him, and Josie pulls her finger free. They bury the globe behind the garage.

Resolution: In March, the snow melts. Grandma finds the globe cracked and empty. The little man is gone.

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE HUNT

CCSS RL.5.4, L.5.5a • VA SOL 5.4

"The radiator bangs all night like somebody's hitting it with a spoon.": **simile:** The old heater makes loud clanging noises all night.

"Gus could sleep through a parade.": **hyperbole:** Gus sleeps so deeply that almost nothing wakes him up.

"It's white. Smooth white, like a candle.": **simile:** The man's face is pale and waxy. It doesn't look like a real person's face.

"The cold hits me like a wall.": **simile:** The cold outside is sudden and strong, like running into something hard.

WRITE A NEW ENDING

CCSS W.5.3 • VA SOL 5.7

Answers will vary. Look for: Starts with Josie and Gus making a plan. The plan is different from the one in the story. The new ending shows whether the plan works. Keeps the story's spooky mood.





Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

FIND THESE

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | H | A | C | R | A | C | K | T | H |
| A | S | N | O | W | B | A | N | K | G |
| B | C | F | S | J | P | P | E | N | L |
| L | O | R | S | T | O | W | H | E | O |
| I | U | O | N | H | I | S | E | G | B |
| Z | S | Z | E | T | S | C | I | T | E |
| Z | I | E | O | T | H | E | K | E | G |
| A | N | N | A | T | T | I | C | E | L |
| R | A | D | I | A | T | O | R | A | R |
| D | S | G | R | A | N | D | M | A | S |

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE GETS TO THE GLASS



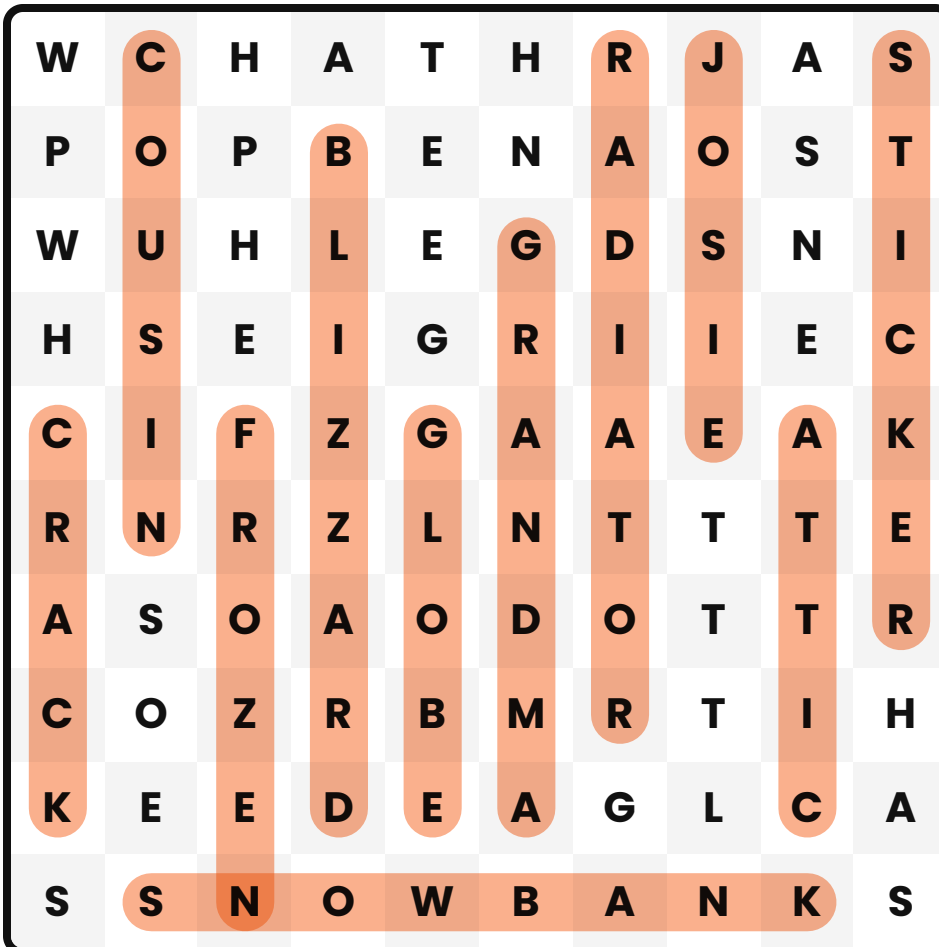


WORD SEARCH · VERSION B · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

1. Find the 11 words from the story. They go across, down, and diagonally. 2. Circle each word and cross out its letters. 3. The letters left over, read in order, spell a line from the story.



FIND THESE

- ☐ Attic
- ☐ Blizzard
- ☐ Cousin
- ☐ Crack
- ☐ Frozen
- ☐ Globe
- ☐ Grandma
- ☐ Josie
- ☐ Radiator
- ☐ Snowbank
- ☐ Sticker

SECRET MESSAGE

W H A T H A P P E N S W H E N H E G E T S T O
T H E G L A S S



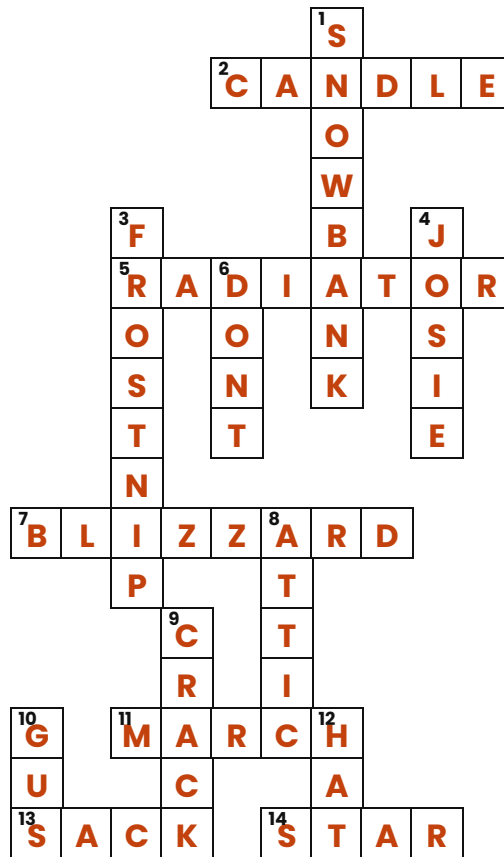


CROSSWORD · VERSION A · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

1. Read each clue. 2. Write one letter in each square. Every answer comes from the story.



ACROSS

2. The man's face is smooth white, like a ____
CANDLE
5. It bangs all night at Grandma's house **RADIATOR**
7. The big snowstorm that closes the roads
BLIZZARD
11. The month Grandma calls with news **MARCH**
13. The man carries it over his shoulder. It's big enough for a kid. **SACK**
14. Josie sticks a gold one on the glass to track him
STAR

DOWN

1. Where Josie and Gus pack the globe in snow
SNOWBANK
3. What Grandma says is wrong with Josie's finger
FROSTNIP
4. The girl telling the story **JOSIE**
6. The one word written on the box **DONT**
8. "Don't you two go up in that ____." **ATTIC**
9. It spreads across the glass **CRACK**
10. Josie's cousin, who shakes everything **GUS**
12. The little man wears a tall black one **HAT**



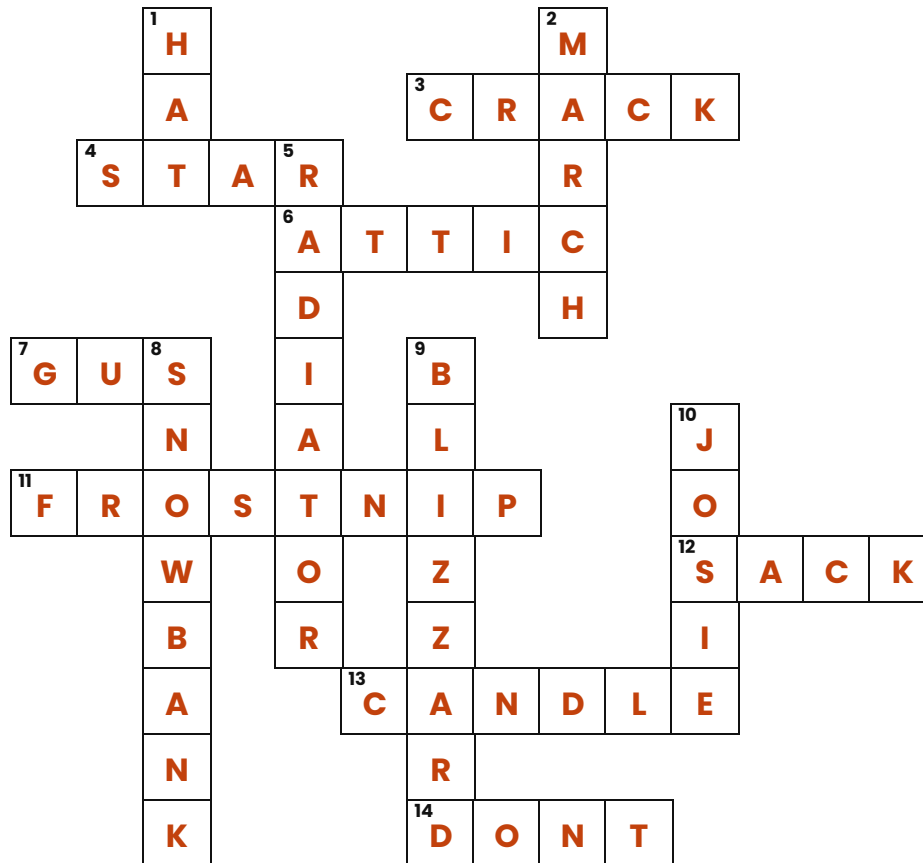


CROSSWORD · VERSION B · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

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1. Read each clue. 2. Write one letter in each square. Every answer comes from the story.



ACROSS

3. It spreads across the glass **CRACK**
4. Josie sticks a gold one on the glass to track him **STAR**
6. "Don't you two go up in that ____." **ATTIC**
7. Josie's cousin, who shakes everything **GUS**
11. What Grandma says is wrong with Josie's finger **FROSTNIP**
12. The man carries it over his shoulder. It's big enough for a kid. **SACK**
13. The man's face is smooth white, like a ____ **CANDLE**
14. The one word written on the box **DONT**

DOWN

1. The little man wears a tall black one **HAT**
2. The month Grandma calls with news **MARCH**
5. It bangs all night at Grandma's house **RADIATOR**
8. Where Josie and Gus pack the globe in snow **SNOWBANK**
9. The big snowstorm that closes the roads **BLIZZARD**
10. The girl telling the story **JOSIE**





SECRET CODES · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

Three messages from the story are written in code. Use each code's key to crack it, one letter at a time.

CODE 1: SHIFT CODE

Every letter moved 3 places forward in the alphabet. Find each code letter in the top row and write the letter under it.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W

S X W L W E D F N

P U T I T B A C K

CODE 2: MIRROR CODE

The alphabet is flipped: A swaps with Z, B with Y, and so on. Find each code letter in the top row and write the letter under it.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

S V L M O B N L E V H D S V M G S V H M L D R H

H E O N L Y M O V E S W H E N T H E S N O W I S

U Z O O R M T

F A L L I N G

CODE 3: BACKWARDS CODE

Each word is written backwards. Read every word from right to left.

T A H W F I E H T R E T A W S I N E Z O R F

W H A T I F T H E W A T E R I S F R O Z E N

D I L O S

S O L I D





WORD SCRAMBLE · VERSION A · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

Each word from the story got scrambled. Use the clue to put the letters back in order.

1. **N G A M A D R**
Clue: She hums, bakes, and plays the radio

GRANDMA

2. **I R O A T R D A**
Clue: It bangs all night like a spoon

RADIATOR

3. **I R Z Z L A B D**
Clue: It closes the schools and the roads

BLIZZARD

4. **E I R C S K S T**
Clue: Gold stars from Josie's reading chart

STICKERS

5. **L F L I S T H A H G**
Clue: Gus holds it on the way outside

FLASHLIGHT

6. **B N N W A O K S**
Clue: Where the globe gets packed in snow

SNOWBANK

7. **N S O E N R T A M**
Clue: The attic has boxes full of them

ORNAMENTS

8. **O A C O C**
Clue: Grandma makes Josie hot ____

COCOA





WORD SCRAMBLE · VERSION B · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

Each word from the story got scrambled. Use the clue to put the letters back in order.

1. **R N D M G A A**
Clue: She hums, bakes, and plays the radio

GRANDMA

2. **A O R D R I T A**
Clue: It bangs all night like a spoon

RADIATOR

3. **Z A R Z B L D I**
Clue: It closes the schools and the roads

BLIZZARD

4. **K R S T S C I E**
Clue: Gold stars from Josie's reading chart

STICKERS

5. **G H H S T A L I L F**
Clue: Gus holds it on the way outside

FLASHLIGHT

6. **K O A N B S W N**
Clue: Where the globe gets packed in snow

SNOWBANK

7. **R T E N O S M A N**
Clue: The attic has boxes full of them

ORNAMENTS

8. **A O C C O**
Clue: Grandma makes Josie hot ____

COCOA





HIDDEN MESSAGE • ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

1. Answer each question from the story. 2. Write the **first letter** of each answer in the matching numbered blank below. 3. Read the hidden message!

1. What does the little man carry over his shoulder?

SACK

The attic has boxes of ____ and boxes of old clothes.

2.

ORNAMENTS

In what month does Grandma call about the globe?

3.

MARCH

4. The rocking horse in the attic has only one ____.

EYE

5. The DON'T box is way in the back, under the ____.

WINDOW

6. The little man wears a tall black ____.

HAT

7. At the end, Grandma says the globe is ____.

EMPTY

8. What tells Grandma it will be the coldest night of the year?

RADIO

9. The schools are closed, the roads are closed, ____ is closed.

EVERYTHING

10. Josie sticks a gold ____ on the glass over his hat.

STAR

11. Grandma says, "Don't you two go up in that ____."

ATTIC

12. How many times does Gus shake the globe the first time?

FIVE

13. When Gus shakes it, snow ____ inside the glass.

EXPLODES

HIDDEN MESSAGE

S O M E W H E R E S A F E

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13





ESCAPE ROOM · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

ESCAPE GRANDMA'S ATTIC

The attic door just clicked shut behind you. Somewhere in the dark, a snow globe is rattling, and the little man is getting closer. Work as a team. Open all four locks to escape.

LOCK 1: THE NUMBER LOCK

Answer each question with a number from the story. Put the three numbers together, in order, to make the code.

1. How many times does Gus shake the globe the first time? **5**
2. How many days is Josie's finger white at the tip? **3**
3. How many flights of stairs does Josie carry the globe down? **2**

CODE

5

3

2

LOCK 2: THE WORD LOCK

This word from the story is in Mirror Code: A swaps with Z, B with Y, and so on. Find each code letter in the top row and write the letter under it. Hint: The radiator bangs like somebody's hitting it with one.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

IN CODE: **H K L L M**

CODE

S

P

O

O

N





ESCAPE ROOM · PART 2 · ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

LOCK 3: THE ORDER LOCK

These events are mixed up. Put them in story order, then read the letters in that order to get the code word.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (L) Grandma calls in March with news. | <u>5</u> |
| (C) Gus opens the box marked DON'T. | <u>1</u> |
| (H) The globe rocks by itself in the night. | <u>2</u> |
| (I) Grandma starts to shake the globe. | <u>3</u> |
| (L) A white hand grabs Josie's finger in the snowbank. | <u>4</u> |

CODE **C H I L L**

LOCK 4: THE FAKE FACT LOCK

Five of these happened in the story. One is made up. The number of the fake one opens the lock.

1. A rocking horse in the attic has one eye.
2. Josie sticks gold star stickers on the glass.
- 3. The little man carries a lantern. (fake)**
4. Josie hides the globe in her sock drawer.
5. Grandma's freezer is full of cookie dough.
6. Gus has to shove the back door with his shoulder.

CODE **3**

When a team opens all four locks, they escape. Read them the last line: "The little man is gone."





WHO SAID IT? • ANSWER KEY

THE SNOW GLOBE

Every time the snow falls, he takes one step closer.

1. Read each line from the story. 2. Write the name of the character who said it. Some characters say more than one line.

CHARACTERS

Grandma Gus Josie The radio man

1. *"Don't you two go up in that attic."*

Grandma

2. *"Grandma said don't go up. She didn't say don't look."*

Gus

3. *"Put it back."*

Josie

4. *"Way below zero, folks."*

The radio man

5. *"What's the sack for?"*

Gus

6. *"I shook it on purpose. The first time. To scare you."*

Gus

7. *"Snow globes are just water."*

Josie

8. *"And the funny thing is, it's empty."*

Grandma

