

READ & RECALL

Q1 · Wk2

Grade 4

Marcus and the Math Mountain

WISDOM

Hard work and asking for help can turn fear into strength.

preceptor reads aloud

DO THIS

► Read the passage carefully.

READ · read carefully — you will answer questions about this

- 1 Marcus stared at the math problem on the board. His stomach felt tight. Numbers and symbols seemed to dance and blur together. All around him, other students were scribbling answers quickly. Their pencils moved fast and sure. Marcus felt so far behind. He had always struggled with fractions. They confused him. Today, Mrs. Chen announced a big test about fractions coming next week. Marcus felt his heart sink. "I can't do this," he whispered to himself. But Mrs. Chen heard him. She smiled and said, "Everyone learns at their own pace, Marcus. With hard work and help, you can do it."
- 2 That afternoon, Marcus decided to try. He asked his mom if they could work on fractions together at home. His mom said yes. Every evening that week, they sat at the kitchen table. Marcus worked on fraction problems slowly and carefully. When he got confused, he drew pictures to help him understand. He drew circles and pies divided into pieces. Slowly, something clicked. The pieces made sense now. He started to see that fractions were just parts of a whole. Each night, Marcus felt a little stronger. He was beginning to believe he might be able to do this.
- 3 On Friday, the day of the test, Marcus felt nervous but ready. His hands trembled as he picked up his pencil. He took a deep breath and read the first problem. He drew a small picture in the margin to help himself think. Then he wrote his answer. One problem down. He kept going. His pictures and practice were helping him. When the test ended, Marcus wasn't sure if he had gotten everything right. But he knew he had tried his very best. He had not given up.
- 4 Two days later, Mrs. Chen handed back the tests. Marcus's heart raced as she

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READ (continued) · keep reading

approached his desk. "Marcus, I'm so proud of you," she said, smiling. "You got a B plus! Look at how much you've improved." Marcus looked at his paper. It was true. His hard work had paid off. He felt pride bubble up inside him. Not just from the grade, but from knowing he hadn't quit. He had faced his fear of math and kept going. That was the real victory.

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DO THIS

► Read the story. Answer each question. Find the words that prove it.

ANSWER · use the passage to answer each question

1. What subject was Marcus struggling with at the beginning of the story?

2. Who helped Marcus practice for the test?

3. What grade did Marcus get on his test?

4. What did Marcus draw to help himself understand fractions?

PROVE IT · copy the sentence (or its number) that proves one of your answers

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► Read the story. Answer each question. Find the words that prove it.

ANSWER · use the passage to answer each question

1. What subject was Marcus struggling with at the beginning of the story?

Marcus was struggling with fractions

2. Who helped Marcus practice for the test?

Marcus's mom helped him practice

3. What grade did Marcus get on his test?

Marcus got a B plus

4. What did Marcus draw to help himself understand fractions?

Marcus drew pictures of circles and pies divided into pieces

PROVE IT · copy the sentence (or its number) that proves one of your answers

He had always struggled with fractions. They confused him.