

Birthday surprises

UNIT 1 • Birthdays / Chapter 1: Chloe / A2 + B1 challenges



An unexpected present

Name: _____

Talk about birthdays, wishes and feelings.

1 Match the words to their meanings.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 celebrate ____ | a wanting to know more about something |
| 2 present ____ | b say that you will definitely do something |
| 3 surprise ____ | c something you would like to happen |
| 4 wish ____ | d do something special for a happy occasion |
| 5 annoyed ____ | e unhappy or a little angry |
| 6 curious ____ | f a gift you give to someone |
| 7 complain ____ | g something you did not expect |
| 8 promise ____ | h say you are unhappy about something |

2 Complete the birthday sentences.

Use: celebrate • present • curious. Change the form if needed.

- Chloe and Amanda _____ her birthday together.
- There is a little black animal inside Chloe's _____.
- Chloe becomes _____ about the skunk's story.

B1 CHALLENGE • Birthday wishes

What would you prefer: a surprise or a present you choose?

Tell your partner why. Start with: I'd prefer... because...

The birthday story

Read Chapter 1 again. Follow Chloe's changing feelings.

1 Choose the best answer.

What is unusual about Chloe's birthday present?

- a It is a skunk. b It is an empty box.

Why does Chloe become interested in it?

- a Amanda mentions its story. b It starts talking.

What does Amanda ask Chloe to promise?

- a To stop complaining. b To buy a new present.

2 Explain the birthday surprise.

Write one or two sentences for each answer.

1 What does Chloe want at first? Why is she unhappy?

2 How does Amanda change Chloe's attitude?

B1 CHALLENGE • More than a present

Amanda says: "We all have a past."

Why might the skunk's story matter more than its appearance?

Discuss with a partner. Use: I think... / Maybe... / because...

Listen to the surprise

Listen to Chapter 1: Chloe. Notice words, details and feelings.

AUDIO

QR here

First listen: follow the birthday scene.

Then listen again and complete the activities.

Design sample: audio link to be added.

1 How does Chloe feel?

Choose: annoyed · curious · excited. Use each word once.

- 1 When she says she doesn't want a skunk: _____
- 2 When she asks "What story?": _____
- 3 When she promises to stop complaining: _____

2 Listen and complete.

- 1 "It's a _____ cute skunk. Don't you like it?"
- 2 "I really want to _____ that story!"
- 3 "Will you _____ me that you'll stop complaining?"
- 4 "We all have a _____," said Amanda.

3 Picture the birthday scene.

What time is it? Where are Chloe and Amanda sitting?

B1 extension: Read a line aloud and show the speaker's feelings.

Birthday wishes

Speak with a partner. Explain preferences and react to surprises.

1 A birthday surprise

Role-play a new version of Chloe and Amanda's conversation.

A • THE CHILD

You receive an unusual present.

Say what you would prefer and why.

Ask two questions about the gift.

Decide whether to keep it.

B • THE PARENT

Explain why you chose the gift.

Hint at an interesting story.

Answer the child's questions.

Ask the child to give it a chance.

LANGUAGE TOOLKIT

I'd prefer a... because... / Why did you choose it?

What happened to...? / Let me tell you about...

At first, I thought... / Now I think...

Talk for one minute. Then swap roles.

2 My surprising birthday present

Write 35–50 words about a real or imaginary gift.

What was it? How did you feel? Did your feelings change?

B1 CHALLENGE • Make it flow

Connect your ideas with because, but and then.

Birthday Fun Page

Find the words. Then bring Kippy to the birthday party!

1 Birthday word hunt

Find 16 words. Look across, down and diagonally (forwards).

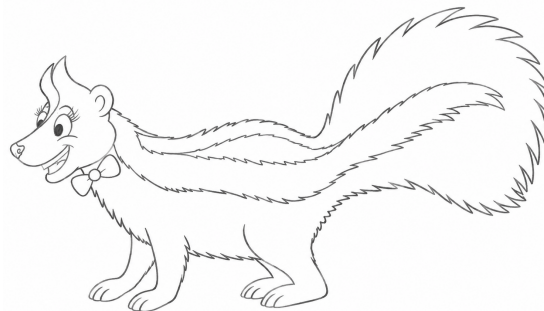
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WORD BANK

birthday
celebrate
present
surprise
candles
cake
party
invitation
wish
friends
balloons
curious
excited
promise
story
skunk

2 Draw & colour Kippy

Trace the light pencil lines. Add a party hat and a birthday gift.



My gift for Kippy is _____ because _____ .