

Name: _____

Sleepover Nightmares

by Kelly Hashway

"Is it too late to fake a stomachache?"

Kayla asked her mom as they got in the car.

"Why would you want to do that?" her mother said. "All your friends are going to be at the sleepover."

"That's the problem. All my friends will be there, and they're going to stay up and have fun. I'll probably sleep through everything."

Her mother sighed. "There's a reason it's called a *sleepover*. At some point, you're expected to go to sleep."

"Yeah, but I fall asleep early every night," Kayla said. "Everyone will be watching movies while I'm snoring. They'll never invite me to another sleepover again."

"I'm sure that's not true," her mother said, turning into the driveway. "Besides, you took a nap this afternoon. You should be rested enough to stay up later than usual. Now, go have fun and stop worrying."

Kayla managed a weak smile before she grabbed her sleeping bag and walked up to the front door where Leslie was waiting.

"I was starting to think you weren't coming," Leslie said. "Come on. The popcorn is ready



and we're about to start the first movie."

"*First* movie? How many are we going to watch?" Kayla looked at her watch and panicked. It was seven o'clock already.

"Three or four," Leslie said, leading Kayla into the living room.

Kayla put her sleeping bag on the floor, but she didn't climb in like everyone else. She was afraid she'd fall right to sleep if she watched the movie lying down. She sat up and reached for some popcorn. Food would give her energy and hopefully keep her awake.

Kayla struggled, but she made it through the first movie. Leslie immediately started another. Kayla went to the bathroom and splashed cold water on her face, but it didn't help. She was tired.

Halfway through the second movie, Kayla felt her head bob. She opened her eyes and jerked her head up, afraid someone would notice she'd fallen asleep.

"You're missing the best part," Leslie said.

Kayla looked around the room. Leslie was the only one awake. "When did everyone fall asleep?"

"Right around the same time you did."

Kayla felt her cheeks blush.

"Think you can stay awake to watch the rest of the movie with me?" Leslie asked.

Kayla smiled. "I'll try."

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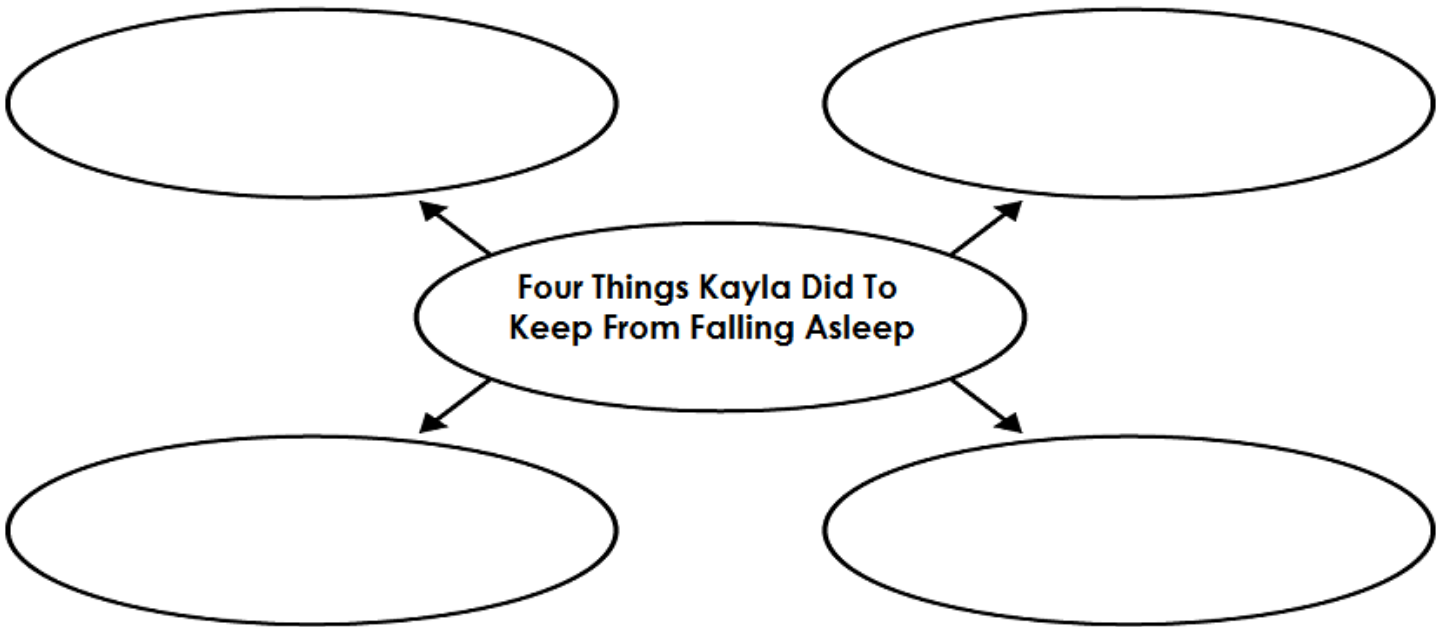
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1. What happened at the beginning of the story?
 - a. Kayla told her mom she had a stomachache.
 - b. Kayla told her mom she didn't want to go to the sleepover.
 - c. Kayla's mom reminded her to try to stay awake.
 - d. Kayla's mom told her she must sleep earlier than her friends.

2. Complete the graphic organizer.



3. The girls planned to watch three movies. Each movie was two hours long. If they began watching them at 7:00 pm, at what time would they have finished watching all three movies?

Challenge: Write a paragraph to describe a time when you stayed up very late. Tell who you were with and what you did.

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Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story.
Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. _ _ _ p _ _ o _ _ _

clue: snack food that is
sometimes eaten during movies

1. _____

2. _ _ _ r u _ _ _ e d

clue: had a hard time

2. _____

3. _ _ _ e _ _ i a _ _ _ y

clue: right away

3. _____

4. _ l _ _ s _ _ _ d

clue: turned red

4. _____

5. _ o _ _ _ y _ _ n _ _

clue: fretting

5. _____

6. _ _ _ i _ _ k _ _ _

clue: became filled with fear

6. _____

7. _ _ _ _ a c _ _ a c _ _ _

clue: sickness in which a person's
belly feels hurts

7. _____