

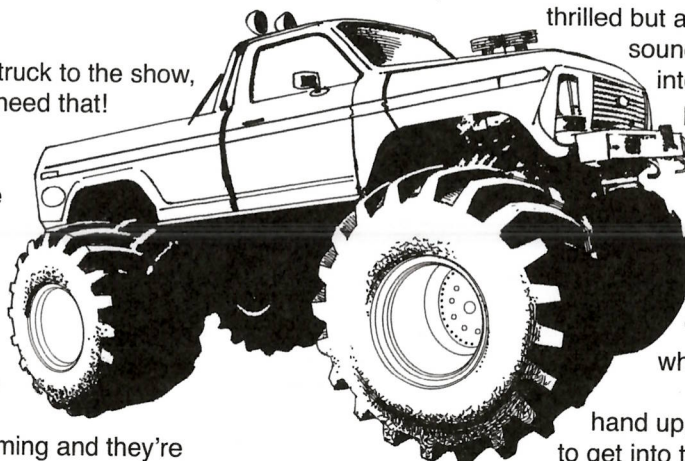
The Monster Truck

Jake thought that he was having the best birthday ever when he opened a present containing an orange and blue Monster Truck with yellow and red flames painted across the bonnet. Just when he thought it couldn't get any better, he found an envelope tucked inside the truck box which contained tickets for 'The Mega Monster Truck' show at the City Arena that evening.

When Jake insisted on taking his new truck to the show, his brother laughed at him, "You don't need that! You're going to see the real thing."

Jake's seat was right next to where the trucks entered the arena. He ran his new truck along the top of the barrier as they waited. Suddenly, the stadium was filled with the sounds of roaring engines. Jake leaned over the metal wall, straining to where the trucks were trundling forwards.

"I can see them!" he yelled, "they're coming and they're huge, this big!" He spread his arms widely and to his horror his new truck slipped out of his fingers and down onto the roadway below. Within seconds it disappeared under the wheels of a colossal blue and silver truck.



When all the trucks had gone past, Jake looked down sadly at the roadway; his beautiful truck was flat and twisted. Dad put an arm round his shoulder, "Never mind," he said, "it was an accident. Try to enjoy the show, we'll sort it out later."

The trucks performed some amazing stunts and Jake was thrilled but as the stadium rang to the sound of applause at the interval, he remembered his poor truck. If only he'd left it at home.

He watched as one of the truck drivers bounded up the stairway and stopped at the end of their row.

"Where's the little boy whose truck got squashed?" he shouted. Jake put his hand up, scared that he was going to get into trouble.

"Come round to the trucks at the end of the show," the driver shouted, "and I'll make sure that you get a free ride!"

14

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The Monster Truck

Section A

Choose the best word or group of words to fit the passage and put a ring around your choice.

Jake opened his birthday present. It was an orange and blue

1 **Monster Trike.** **Monster Bike.** **Monster Truck.**

Inside the box he found

2 **tickets** **money** **sweets** **passes**

for the Monster Truck Show that evening. Jake's

3 **coat** **bag** **seat** **truck**

was next to where the trucks came in. He was leaning over to see them when his truck

4 **was stolen.** **ended up on the floor.**

slipped from his fingers. **fell apart.**

Dad said,

5 **"Silly boy!"** **"Never mind."** **"Oh no!"** **"Be careful."**

During the interval a driver came over and offered Jake a

6 **new truck.** **free ride.** **bag of sweets.** **free ticket.**

15

Section B

1 Why did Jake think he was having the best birthday ever?

2 What did Jake find 'tucked inside the truck box'?

3 Why did Jake's brother laugh at him?

4 How do you think Jake felt when 'suddenly, the stadium was filled with the sounds of roaring engines'?

5 How do you think Jake felt when he saw 'his beautiful truck was flat and twisted'?

6 What did Jake think was going to happen when one of the drivers came looking for him?

Section C

Write a real or an imaginary account of your very own 'best birthday ever'.

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Page 15 - The Monster Truck

Section A

- 1) Monster Truck.
- 2) tickets
- 3) seat
- 4) slipped from his fingers.
- 5) "Never Mind."
- 6) free ride.

Section B

- 1) He got what he really wanted, a Monster Truck.
 - 2) Tickets for 'The Mega Monster Truck Show'.
 - 3) He was taking his toy truck when he was going to see the real thing.
 - 4) Very excited.
 - 5) Very upset/ disappointed/ angry.
 - 6) He thought he was going to get into trouble.
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