

UNDER THE SEA

It was the day of the big play. It was called Under the Sea. Why? It was because it was all about ocean animals. Maisie was playing the sea turtle. The shark was being played by Roberto. Nora was set to be the octopus.

"Did you see this? We have a chance to show the whole state that we have the best play," Mr. Perez said. He was waving a letter and wore a proud smile.

"Why's that, Mr. Perez?" Nora asked.

"Judges from the state are coming to watch our performance today. They only attend the best productions. Schools from the whole state compete. You can't enter yourself. You have to be nominated. This is a great honor. If we do well, it will help our drama department."

Maisie nodded. Her eyes were bright. Her classmates worked hard. They practiced daily. They memorized their lines. They acted out scenes in front of mirrors.

"I hope we win! Is there a prize?" Roberto asked.

"There are a few prizes. The grand prize is several thousand dollars! Plus, we would be on the news!"

"Do you think we have a good chance of winning?" Nora asked.

"Yes, I believe in all of you!" Mr. Perez exclaimed.

"It is your acting that got us into the contest. Without all of you, we wouldn't be getting this chance," Mr. Perez continued. "Now, let's practice one more time."

COMPREHENSION

1

Who plays the sea turtle in the production?

2

How did Mr. Perez know judges were coming?

3

How does a school become part of the competition?

4

If they do well, what will it help?

5

What is the grand prize?