



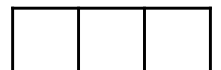
# The Little Seed

Once there was a little seed. It lived inside a juicy red apple on a tall strong apple tree. It felt safe and secure, tucked away in the flesh of the apple.

One summer day, a rugged little boy climbed up the tree and picked the apple. The boy put the apple in his pocket, clambered down the tree, and skipped across the grassy field back to his home. The little seed was very nervous. It had never been away from the apple tree before. Soon, the boy took the apple out of his pocket, washed it in the sink, then took a big bite, exposing the core. The little seed fell onto the table. After a few minutes, the boy finished eating the apple and threw the core away. He glanced at the table and saw the little seed. He picked it up, examined it for a moment, then put it in his pocket.

The boy went out to a small shed behind his house and found a little spade among a pile of muddy tools. He grabbed it and walked back across the field to the apple tree grove. He dug a small hole in the dirt and gently placed the little seed in it. The boy tossed some dirt on top of the seed to fill the hole and patted it down. The little seed was very depressed. It did not know what was happening, and it felt all alone, down in the dark, moist dirt. It began to wonder why the boy would do such a cruel thing.

Soon, however, a wonderful thing started to happen. The little seed began to sprout! It grew roots that held it firmly into the ground, while its sprout burst through the soil into the crisp air and slowly began changing into a brand new apple tree. It grew and grew until it was tall and strong with many juicy red apples on it. The little seed, which was now transformed into a healthy apple tree, was never sad or lonely again.





# The Little Seed

Answer the questions below. Use crayons or colored pencils to underline your evidence in the passage.



Where did the little seed live?

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What happened to the seed when the boy ate the apple?

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What is a spade?

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How does the little seed feel when it is first planted?

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What wonderful thing happened to the little seed?

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Make an inference. What is the boy thinking about when he picks up the seed and examines it?

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Circle words or phrases in the passage that gave you a clue.

If you were a tree, what kind would you want to be and why? \_\_\_\_\_

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