**Surprise Picnic**

One morning, Marcus and his sister Maria went to the city park with their grandmother. Their grandmother had packed a BIG picnic for them. She was a good cook, so Marcus and Lisa couldn’t wait until it was time to eat!

When they got to the park, Marcus and Maria played on the swings and rode the bouncing (1) ________ s. Every few minutes they asked to eat, but their Grandmother said to wait until (2) __________. Finally, Marcus and Lisa couldn’t wait any longer! They sneaked over to the picnic (3) ____________ when Grandma wasn’t looking and peeked inside.

This is what they found:
- Little (4) ___________ sandwiches with (5) ___________ cheese and (6) ___________ on (7) __________ bread.
- A big salad made with (8) ___________ lettuce, (9) ___________, (10) ___________, (11) ___________, and (12) ___________.
- Fresh-picked (13) __________ (14) ___________.
- A (15) ___________ of nice cold (16) ___________ to drink.
- Their favorite dessert, (17) ___________ cake with (18) ___________ frosting!

Just as Marcus and Maria were about to grab something to eat, their grandmother spotted them! She went over to the children and said, “I caught you! Since you peeked at the picnic before I said it was time, you’ll have to (19) ___________ for ten minutes and have only (20) ___________ for lunch!” But when Marcus and Maria said they were sorry, their grandmother forgave them. Then they all enjoyed their special feast in the park!

**Directions.** Madlibs can be fun for you! Here is what to do:

1. **BEFORE** you read the “Surprise Picnic” story, read each of the 20 phrases below to your partner and ask him or her to think of a word to match the phrase. Write their words in the numbered blanks. Then, have your partner give you your paper back and copy those words by matching the numbers on the left side of the sheet. Next, switch jobs with your partner.
2. Now read “Surprise Picnic” to your partner using the words that you supplied. The story could become very funny! Have your partner read their story to you, too.
3. This can be done over and over with different words, with a different result every time!

**Here are the words to ask your child for:**
1. A small animal ________________________
2. A special day or event __________________
3. A container (something that you can put other things into) ________________________
4. Something you can eat __________________
5. A color ______________________________
6. Something creamy _____________________
7. A shape ______________________________
8. A word that describes how something might FEEL in your mouth (like crunchy, juicy, crispy, mushy, sticky, chewy) ________________________
9. A color ______________________________
10. Something you can eat __________________
11. A word that describes how something might TASTE (like sweet, sour, salty, or bitter) ________________________
12. Something you can eat __________________
13. A word that describes how something might FEEL in your mouth (like crunchy, juicy, crispy, mushy, sticky, chewy) ________________________
14. Something you can eat __________________
15. A container (something that you can put other things into) ________________________
16. Something you can drink __________________
17. Something you can eat __________________
18. Something you can eat __________________
19. Something you don’t like to do __________
20. Something you don’t like to eat __________