The reading contest
The reading contest

Story by Judith Nadell
Illustrations by Mark Weber
“I have exciting news,” said Mrs. Hall. “We’re going to have a reading contest. The first grade class that reads the most books will win a treat. The treat will be a daytime pajama party one Friday afternoon.”
“Yay!” shouted the children.

“We will read lots of books.”

For the next few weeks, the children read before, during, and after school.
One day, Mrs. Hall asked the children to talk about their favorite books.
Victor held up his favorite book.

“This book has a wolf who huffs and puffs.”

“My favorite book has a wolf, too,” said Derek.

“He tries to trick a little girl.”
“My favorite book is about a princess with long hair,” said Jasmin.

“In my favorite book, there’s also a princess,” said Kendra.

“She can’t fall asleep because her bed feels hard.”
The first grade teachers counted the books their classes had read.
Mrs. Hall’s class won!
“I’m proud of you,” Mrs. Hall said.
“Now we can have our daytime pajama party!”
After recess on Friday, the children put on pajamas. They spread out pillows and blankets. Mrs. Hall shut off the lights, pulled down the shades, and turned on a flashlight. Then she read to the children.

“This was my favorite book when I was in first grade,” she said.
“Wow,” the children said to themselves.
“Mrs. Hall used to be in first grade, too!”
The reading contest
Word Count: 230
Level 14
Late First Grade

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