Violence at Home

Pre-reading

Questions:
- What type of violence might happen in a home?
- What can a person do if there is violence in the home?

Definitions:
- Violence – use of physical force to cause pain or injury
- Deserve – to have the right to something

Reading

Josh is seven years old. He lives with his mom and dad. His parents fight a lot.

He loves his mom and dad. He is sad and scared when they fight.

One night Josh heard yelling. He got out of bed and walked downstairs. Then he saw his dad hit his mom. She fell to the floor. She was crying.

Josh’s dad was yelling. He was calling Mom mean names. Josh began to cry.

Dad saw Josh. He told Josh to go back to bed.

No one deserves to be hit. No one deserves to be yelled at and called names.

We all deserve to live in a safe place. We all deserve a life free from fear.

Josh and his mom can get help. They need to tell someone. They can tell a friend or family member. They can tell the police. They can tell a teacher. Telling someone is the first step to safety.
**Understanding**

1. How does Josh feel about his mom and dad? _______________________________________
   ________________________________________________

2. What woke Josh? _______________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. How does Josh feel about the fighting? ____________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4. Why did Josh cry? ______________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

5. Who could Josh or Mom contact for help? ________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

**Writing**

**Option A:** Write the story in your own words.

**Option B:** “We all deserve to live in a safe place; a place free from fear.” Do you agree?
   Why or why not?
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