A Safe Home for Baby

Pre-reading

Questions:
- What would be a safe home for a baby?
- What would not be a safe home for a baby?

Definitions:
- Thrive – to be healthy and successful
- Kool-Aid – a powdery drink that comes in different flavors
- Monitor – a person who watches or checks on something or someone

Reading

Jack is doing all of the things that babies his age are supposed to be doing. He is curious and likes to explore his world. Most of what he gets a hold of goes into his mouth.

Jack is ten months old. He crawls quickly and pulls himself up on furniture. As soon as Jack starts walking, it will be even easier for him to get into things that may not be safe.

Beth has worked hard at baby proofing her home. She wants her son to be safe and thrive. She has placed all breakable items on high shelves and covered all the electrical outlets. Jack could get a serious shock or start a fire by putting objects in the outlets.

All of Beth’s cleaning supplies are in high cupboards. Why? Glass cleaner and blue Kool-Aid look very similar. The family’s medications and vitamins are in a locked cabinet. Colorful pills could easily be mistaken for candy.

Beth feels good about the safety of her home, but knows she must still keep a watchful eye on Jack. As his parent, she is his best safety monitor. Beth has often thought how nice it would be to have eyes on both the front and back of her head!

Level 3.5
Understanding

1. What is baby proofing? __________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________

2. Describe Jack. _________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________

3. What does Beth cover? Why? _____________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________

4. What types of things does Beth put in high places? _________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________

5. Where does Beth store aspirin? Why? ______________________________________________
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   ______________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: What have you done to keep kids safe in your home?
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