

Cat or No Cat?

Will Carly get the kitten she wants?

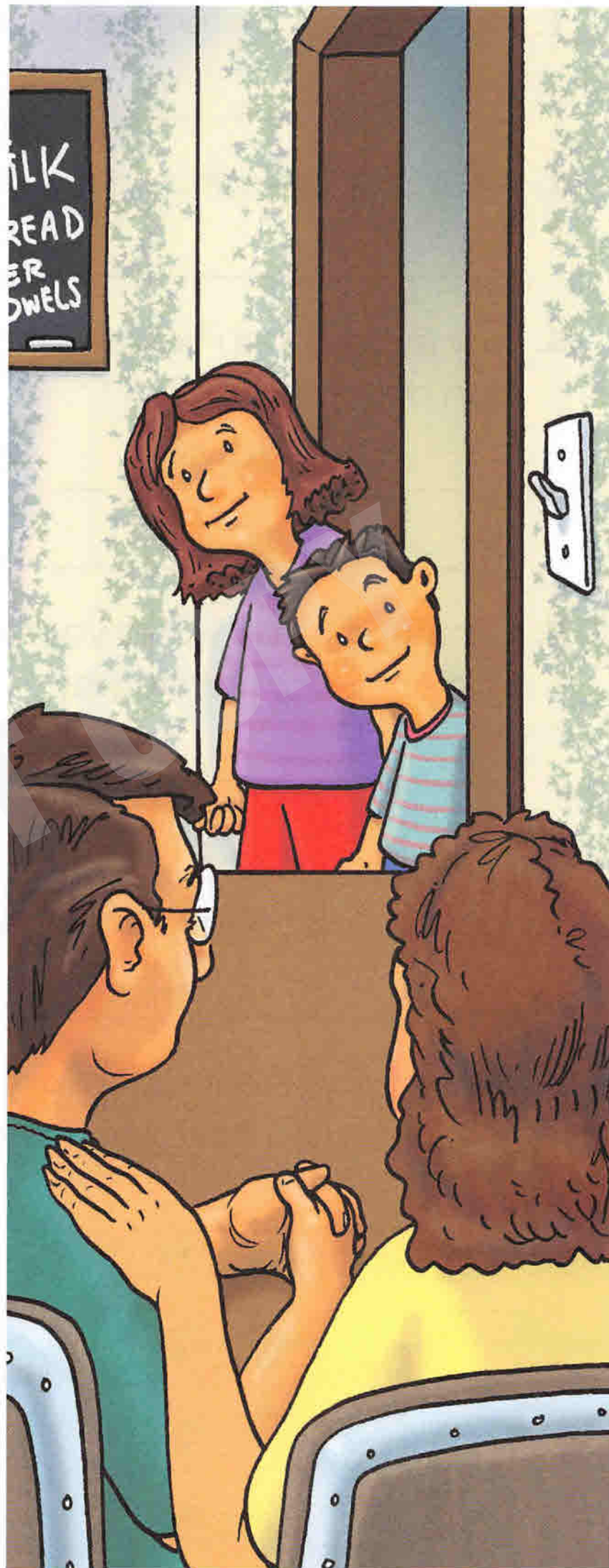
1 “Carly, would you and Mitch come here, please? We want to talk to you about something,” Dad called from the kitchen.

2 “Coming, Dad,” said Carly. To her little brother, she said, “Come on, Mitch. Maybe this is about a kitten!”

3 Mom and Dad were sitting at the kitchen table. They looked thoughtful. Carly and Mitch sat down. Dad spoke first. Carly’s heart sank. Dad always gave out the bad news. “Your mother and I have been talking about a cat.” Carly held on to a tiny bit of hope.

4 Then, Mom began to speak. Carly perked up a little. “We don’t think a kitten is a good idea.” *Boom!* Carly’s spirits sank again.

5 Mom went on, “We think it would be better if we got a grown up cat.”



1. At the beginning of the story, what did you predict would happen at the end?

2. Why does Carly worry when Dad speaks first?

3. Have you ever wanted something as much as Carly wants a kitten? Tell about it.

4. In the story, who is Mitch?

_____ Carly's dad _____ Carly's brother _____ Carly's cousin

5. Why do you think Carly's parents want an older cat and not a kitten?

6. Do you think Carly will be happy about her parents' decision? Why or why not?

7. Look at the picture on page 36. What does the art add to the story? How do the kids look like they are feeling?

8. Read the last line of the story again. What do you predict will happen next?
