

No Help for Allison

Why can't Mom help Allison?

¹ Allison was bored. She had asked Mom to play a game with her, but Mom said she was busy.

² Allison read for a while. Then, she was bored again. *Ugh, there's nothing to do!* she thought. She asked for help with her weaving, but Mom was busy. *Why is Mom always busy when I need her?* Now, Allison was bored and grumpy.

³ Allison shuffled into the kitchen. Mom looked up from her cooking. "Oh, Ally, I'm glad you're here. Come next door and help me cheer up Mrs. Baxter. She broke her leg last week, and I'm taking some food over to her."

⁴ "That's why you were busy?" asked Allison.

⁵ "That's right. Why?"

⁶ "Oh, poor Mrs. Baxter," said Allison, suddenly feeling not so grumpy. "I wanted you to help me today, but it turns out you were helping someone who really needed it."



1. At the beginning of the story, how did you think it would turn out?

2. Why can't Mom help Allison?

3. How does Allison feel about what her mother was doing?

4. Why do you think she feels that way?

Write **T** if the sentence is true. Write **N** if the story does not give the information.

5. _____ Mom is kind to a neighbor.

_____ Mom dislikes playing games with Allison.

_____ Mom is a great cook.

_____ Mom uses a nickname for her daughter.

6. In the story, who is Mrs. Baxter?

7. Why does Allison feel upset with her mom?

8. Have you ever wanted your parents to do something with you when they didn't have time? Tell about how it made you feel.
