

Parent Teacher Conferences

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you know about school conferences?

Definitions:

- Conference – a meeting to discuss something
- Active – engaged; doing something
- Schedule – to set a time and/or date



Reading

12 Char checks her son's backpack each day after school. Sometimes he brings
28 home artwork. He is proud of his artwork. Char hangs it in the kitchen. Other days
43 he brings home samples of his writing. He also brings home short stories to read
with his mom.

46 Last week Char found something new in her son's backpack. It was a note
60 about parent teacher conferences. This made Char **uneasy**. School was never a
72 pleasant place for her. She does not have fond memories of it, yet she knows how
88 important a good education is for her son.

96 Char looked at the conference dates and times. None of the dates and times
110 worked for her. "I guess it won't work for me this time," Char thought. She read the
127 rest of the note. It said, "If you are unable to attend any of the conference times
144 listed, please call or email me and I will be happy to meet with you at another time,"
162 signed Ms. Carlson, first grade.

167 Char wants her son's school experience to be better than hers. She knows it is
182 important to be active in her son's education. So, she called Ms. Carlson. The
196 teacher was happy to meet with Char before school. They scheduled a conference
209 for 7:15 a.m. Friday morning.

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Level 4.0

Understanding

1. In what grade is Char's son? Who is his teacher? _____

2. What does the word **uneasy** mean? _____

3. What is Char doing at home to show her son that school is important? _____

4. Why is Char uneasy? _____

5. Why did Char schedule a conference with her son's teacher? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: What are your experiences with parent teacher conferences? Do you think they are valuable? Why or why not?
