

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Nutcracker (Part 1)

Questions:

1. Have you seen the Nutcracker Ballet? \_\_\_\_\_  
So far, is the story pretty much the same as the ballet? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what is different in the story?



2. Toward the beginning of the story, Clara and Fritz argue about whether or not Godfather Drosselmeyer can work magic. What happens in the story to support Clara's opinion that he can?

What other explanation might there be for what Clara saw?

What do you think? Was there magic at work, or not? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Is Fritz a likeable character? \_\_\_\_\_ How would you describe him?

4. Why does Clara feel the wrapped-present before she opens it?

Do you ever do this? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?

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5. Fritz is clearly dissatisfied with Godfather Drosselmeyer's present. How about Clara? Do you think she's secretly disappointed at first even though she says she's not? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. *When* and *why* does Clara start to love the toy Nutcracker?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. The Nutcracker is captured by the mice soldiers. How does he get free?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. When do the toys go back to being ordinary toys?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Is Clara a likeable character? \_\_\_\_\_ How would you describe her?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What do you think will happen next?