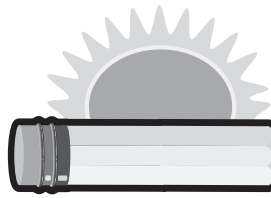


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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PG-13 MOVIES

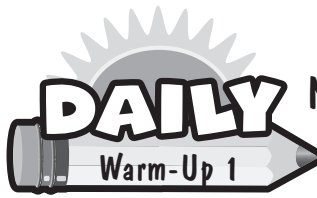
Have you been to the movies lately? You have probably noticed that each movie has a rating. The ratings are meant to be guidelines for viewers, to explain levels of violence, language, and other characteristics of movies. The rating system was set up to prevent children from being exposed to inappropriate or intensive scenes or story lines. It seems that these days the rating is used to entice movie fans to go to a movie, as opposed to avoiding a movie.

Adding the PG-13 rating has allowed movie producers to avoid the strict standards of the ratings system. It seems that if a movie wanted to add more violence or bad language but not get the R rating, movie producers would go for the PG-13 rating. Exactly what is the difference between the R rating and the PG-13 rating? As far as I can see, there isn't one.

At one time, the R rating meant that it was not appropriate for children under a certain age. In fact, they were not allowed into the theater without an adult. Now, not only can children go to the movie without an adult, but also movie producers change the rating to PG-13 so that more kids can attend. By using the PG-13 rating, just about anything goes. When will movie executives and producers be held to a high standard again? Kids are seeing worse things on the big screen than they've ever seen before. What's next: a PG-8 rating?

### STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following is a reason presented in this passage as to why children should not be allowed to watch PG-13 movies?
  - a. PG-13 movies are produced with higher budgets than R movies.
  - b. Movie producers are allowed to add more violence and language with the PG-13 rating than an R rating.
  - c. Many PG-13 movies have high levels of violence and bad language.
  - d. The rating system was set up to prevent children from seeing anything inappropriate.
2. Which of the following statements would the author of this passage most likely make?
  - a. Children need to be taught how to decipher the ratings system on movies.
  - b. Parents should hold movie theaters accountable for letting their children in movies.
  - c. Movie producers should be held to higher standards when they are given a rating for their movies.
  - d. PG-13 movies should not be allowed.
3. What is the meaning of the word *intensive* as used in this passage?
  - a. strenuous
  - b. deceased
  - c. concerned
  - d. graphic



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## WASHED ASHORE

Melinda and her brother Ben were climbing the rocks on the beach one day when they happened to come across a bone. A bone may not seem that unusual, but this was a big bone. It wasn't one you'd usually find lying on the beach.

"I wonder why this is here," Melinda thought aloud. "Why would there be a big bone like this lying around? It looks like a human bone."

"That's sounds creepy," said Ben.

Just then, a truck drove up to the beach. Melinda watched a man get out with his dog. The two began running up and down the beach looking for something.

"Alright," said Ben. "Let's figure out where this bone came from."

The two began combing the beach looking for other bone pieces. Melinda was scared and worried. Ben didn't say much. They pondered on the bone's origin.

Just then, the dog came running up to Ben, who was carrying the bone. The dog began barking.

"Oh, there it is," said the man.

"Where is what?" asked Ben.

"That's Franklin's bone. We've been looking for it. We left it here yesterday."

"And just where did you get the bone?" asked Melinda skeptically.

The man started laughing when he realized what the kids must be thinking. "This is a deer bone. We brought it here to the beach," explained the man. "Case closed?" he asked.

"Case closed," said Ben as a little smile crept onto his face. Melinda just shook her head.

### STORY QUESTIONS

- Which word best describes how Melinda and Ben felt at the end of the story?
  - organized
  - relieved
  - annoyed
  - exhausted
- Which paragraph helps you answer the previous question?
  - last paragraph
  - first paragraph
  - fourth paragraph
  - third paragraph
- Another good title for the passage could be . . .
  - "A Bony Beach."
  - "Melinda and Ben."
  - "Give Me My Bone."
  - "The Mystery Bone."