

WHERE DID MICHAEL GO? (ABOUT)

By Carole L. Cooney

Definitions:

About: On all sides; around	The children skipped about the playground.
About: Approximately; almost	There are about 25 candies in that box.
About: Here and there	The rain drops fell about the windshield very lightly.
About: In the opposite direction	The Commander called "About face!"

Setting: At the Anderson home; at the park

Characters:

Narrator
Jacob
Emily
Michael
Madison

Narrator: It was a summer day when the Anderson brothers and sisters decided to go to the park. They ran to the kitchen to ask their Mother what time they should return home.

Jacob: Mother, we're going to the park for a while. About what time would you like us to be home?

Mother: About noon will be fine. I'll have lunch ready for you and we can all picnic at the beach.

Emily: The beach! That would be great!

All the children: Thanks, Mom!

Narrator: The children ran to the park which was about four blocks away. Once there, they tumbled about in the grassy field doing some of their gymnastic moves.

Michael: Okay. Let's line up. I'll call the next move.

Madison: Can I call next time?

Michael: Sure, Madison. Everyone ready? Here goes. About face!

Narrator: The children turn around and wait for the next call.

Michael: Okay, Madison. It's your turn.

Madison: A backwards flip! Go! Who's next?

Jacob: Okay, let's see if you can do this? March about the grass as if you were monkeys.

Michael: Come on, Jacob. That's crazy.

Jacob: Well, try this one. Three cartwheels, then a backbend. Go!

Narrator: Soon the children tired of that activity and decided to play tag. That didn't last too long because a huge black cloud opened up and cold rain poured down.

Emily: Let's run for the Club House and call Mom.

Madison: Hurry! Wow! I was just about to tag Michael when I felt the first drops.

Jacob: Whew! Where's Michael? We just about made you guys lose the game when I saw him slip. Where did he go?

Narrator: Madison, Emily and Jacob looked about for their brother from the club house doorway. Suddenly they heard a loud bang. They turned about and who did they see? No, it wasn't Michael. It was their little Cocker Spaniel, Smitty.

Emily: Smitty, what are you doing here? Why are you jumping about?

Madison: What is he trying to tell us? Look he's running outside.

Jacob: Let's follow!

Narrator: The children follow Smitty as he runs about the grass, sniffing and searching. At last, they see Smitty standing and barking over the edge of a large hole.

What happened next?

Using as many definitions of *about* as you can, end the play.