

Read this selection about a new reading center and answer the questions that follow.

The Hudson Herald

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Section C, Page 1

Reading Room Honors a Great Reader

1 Few people like to read as much as Jessie Malone does. Mrs. Malone has been a reader for 55 years. For much of that time, she has been reading books to children. First, she read to her own eight children. Then she read to her 14 grandchildren. For the last 20 years, she has been reading to the children of Hudson at the Hudson Public Library.

2 To honor Mrs. Malone's dedication to the children of the community, the Hudson Public Library is naming its new children's room "The Jessie Malone Children's Reading Center."

3 Head librarian Albert Moss first proposed the reading center several years ago. "We noticed that more children were coming to the library after school," he says. "Mrs. Malone, our children's librarian, cheerfully adapted to the growing number of after-school kids. She would gather them around her and read all afternoon, but the children's area of the library was small, and the noise was disturbing the rest of the library patrons."

4 The library staff discussed possible solutions. One staff member proposed that certain hours be designated for children's use of the library. Another wondered if the library should restrict the

number of children who could come into the library at any given time. Naturally, Mrs. Malone disliked both plans.

5 "How could we restrict the children like that?" says Mrs. Malone. "The children are our future. We are responsible for helping their minds grow. Reading is one of the most exciting ways for them to learn! I could never turn away a child who wanted to read with me."

6 Mr. Moss then suggested that the library turn an old storeroom into a new children's center. The storeroom lay in the back of the library, away from the main reading room, but it was dirty and full of junk. The library would need help with such a project. That's where Mrs. Malone and her young reading friends stepped in.

7 Last January, Mrs. Malone and the children of Hudson came up with a plan to raise money to renovate the storeroom and buy new books for the children's collection. "We decided that a carnival would be a great way for everyone in the community to see what we were doing," says Sarabeth, a sixth grader who goes to the library often. The children set the carnival date for early summer, when the weather would be warm.

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8 Once the community heard about the carnival, many people volunteered to help. They signed up to run booths, sell food, auction antiques, clean up, and more. Local artists asked if they could set up their own booths to sell jewelry, pottery, and handmade musical instruments.

9 The carnival was held at City Park, across from the library. The event was a great success. The sun was shining, and the temperature was mild. Jugglers, a clown, and a magician weaved through the crowds. People laughed as they grilled and ate food and played games. A local band performed in the afternoon. In the evening, the park put on a small fireworks display.

10 “The community responded so well,” says Mr. Moss. “I was really surprised to see how many people spent the day with us. We held the carnival to raise money for the library, but we did much more than that. We gave the community a chance to come together for a common cause. People like that.”

11 The carnival raised enough money to make the children’s room possible. For the rest of the summer and the early part of the fall, the library staff and volunteers worked on the new center. Several community members donated books and magazine subscriptions. In November, the center was nearly ready, but it still didn’t have a name.

12 Local children were quick to suggest that the center be named after Mrs. Malone. Sarabeth explains, “For as long as I can remember, Mrs. Malone has read to me at the library. She was the one who introduced me to Clifford and to Winnie the Pooh and to Ramona Quimby! I am 11 years old now, and I still love to listen to Mrs. Malone read. A lot of other kids feel the same way, so it seemed like a good idea to name the new center after her.”

13 The Jessie Malone Children’s Reading Center will be open to the public beginning next week.

Benchmark 6RA.7 (I)

1. What was the author’s main purpose in writing this selection?
 - A to explain how to build a children’s reading center in a library
 - B to inform the reader about how to use the new children’s reading center
 - C to describe the new children’s reading center at Hudson Public Library
 - D to inform the reader about the naming of the new children’s reading center and its history

Benchmark 6RP.6

2. According to the selection, why did Mrs. Malone dislike the first two plans for reducing the disturbance the children caused the rest of the library patrons?
 - A She didn’t want to continue being the children’s librarian.
 - B She thought the plans were too restricting on the children.
 - C She didn’t think the children would come to the library anymore.
 - D She didn’t think the library could accommodate as many children anymore.

Benchmark 6RP.6

3. Why did Mrs. Malone and the children plan a carnival?
 - A to draw attention to the benefits of reading
 - B to encourage the public to use the public library
 - C to invite the public to donate books to the library
 - D to raise money for a children’s center at the library

Benchmark 6V.1

4. In paragraph 7, the author writes that “Mrs. Malone and the children of Hudson came up with a plan to raise money to **renovate** the storeroom.” What does **renovate** mean?
 - A clean
 - B destroy
 - C relocate
 - D remake

Benchmark 6RP.6

5. Why did the library need a children’s reading center?
 - A Children needed a place to go after school.
 - B The library didn’t have any children’s books.
 - C Noisy children were disturbing other patrons.
 - D Mr. Moss wanted to clean out the old storeroom.

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Benchmark 6RP.6

6. Which sentence from the selection best explains the reason the children’s reading center was named after Mrs. Malone?
- A “Few people like to read as much as Jessie Malone does.”
 - B “Mrs. Malone has been a reader for 55 years.”
 - C “‘Mrs. Malone, our children’s librarian, cheerfully adapted to the growing number of after-school kids.’”
 - D “For the last 20 years, she has been reading to the children of Hudson at the Hudson Public Library.”

Benchmark 6RP.6

7. What sets Mrs. Malone apart from the rest of the library staff?
- A Mrs. Malone is much older than the other staff members.
 - B Mrs. Malone feels a special responsibility to help children love reading.
 - C Mrs. Malone is more cheerful than the other members of the library staff.
 - D Mrs. Malone has worked at the library longer than any other staff member.

Benchmark 6RA.2 (I)

8. Which of these sentences from the selection expresses a fact?
- A “The event was a great success.”
 - B “Few people like to read as much as Jessie Malone does.”
 - C “‘The community responded so well,’ says Mr. Moss.”
 - D “The carnival raised enough money to make the children’s room possible.”

Benchmark 6RA.8 (I)

9. When the author describes the building of the children’s center at the library, how does she present the events?
- A from the point of view of Mr. Moss
 - B from least important details to most important
 - C from the time of the original idea to its completion
 - D in the order in which Mrs. Malone remembers them

Benchmark 6RP.6

10. Why was it appropriate to name the new reading center after Mrs. Malone? Use details and examples from the selection to support your answer. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper.