

## Lost in the Snow

The gift Joey wanted most for Christmas this year was a new kickball. His old one had a small hole and would not stay inflated; it's hard to play kickball with a nearly flat ball. It doesn't roll or fly very well. On Christmas Day, Joey opened a big square box and squealed with delight when he saw its contents - a new and perfect orange kickball.



"Dad, may I p-l-e-a-s-e go outside and kick my new ball around?" Joey pleaded.

Dad nodded his approval, and Joey sprinted out the door. He played with that kickball all afternoon, and when his mom called him in for dinner, he left it in the back yard. After dinner, the family watched a great movie, and Joey forgot about his kickball.

That night, it snowed the first big snow of the season. In the morning, after breakfast, Joey wanted to play with his new kickball again but couldn't remember exactly where he had left it outside. Now, snow covered the yard. Discouraged, Joey came back into the house.

"Dad, my ball is lost in the snow. How will I ever find it?"

"The weather is supposed to warm up in a few days," Dad replied. "The snow will begin to melt, and your new ball will pop right out of its hiding place."



1. The gift Joey wanted most for Christmas this year was a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(baseball    tool set    kickball)
2. On Christmas Day, Joey was \_\_\_\_\_ to receive a new kickball.  
(disappointed    delighted    upset)
3. Joey pleaded with his father to let him play \_\_\_\_\_ with the new ball.  
(outside    in the garage    in the bedroom)
4. The next morning, Joey awoke to learn it had \_\_\_\_\_ during the night.  
(rained    snowed    stormed)
5. Discouraged, Joey told his dad the new ball was \_\_\_\_\_ in the snow.  
(bouncing    leaking    lost)