

The Tape on the Bedroom Floor

Eight activities

Activity 1: The tally

What four facts does Blima's tally turn up? (Count them: the total, the window, the ingredients, the Shabbos pattern.) Which one does the most to change her mind, and why?

Activity 2: Mood versus fact

"Nice is a mood, and 5:45 is a fact." What does Blima mean, and what did Thursday's wafer fight prove? Find the line where she nearly solves the problem with niceness and say why it could not hold.

Activity 3: The tape

The tape is the most logical-sounding fix in the story, and it produces "the two worst days in the history of the room." Why does dividing the room fail? What is the difference between a fix that manages two people and a fix that treats one of them as the problem?

Activity 4: Frame arithmetic (all numbers made up for practice)

A pair of sisters fights 15 times in 3 weeks. 13 of the fights happen inside one 30-minute window. 10 of the 15 have the same three ingredients. They change the setup, and the next week has fights on only 2 of 7 evenings. (a) What fraction of the original fights were inside the window? (b) How many fight-free evenings did the first new week have? (c) Why is the Shabbos pattern - zero fights - stronger evidence than any single number here? Show your steps.

Activity 5: The Sunday fight

The Sunday-morning scarf fight gets a tally mark "like any other," with two words beside it: out of pattern. Why would leaving it out "cook the evidence"? And what does Blima's bare apology - "I was sharp about the scarf and I'm sorry," with nothing added after it - show about what a frame fix cannot do?

Activity 6: Draw the door

Draw the inside of the bedroom door at the end of the story: the tally sheet, the written schedule, the pencil on its string. Only what can be seen. Caption it with one line from the story.

Activity 7: Etty's kitchen table - a made-up case

A teen named Etty and her brother fight every evening over the kitchen table where they both do homework - his elbows, her papers, one lamp. Write the tally Etty keeps (three invented facts like Blima's), the one change she tries first, and the sentence she writes at the bottom of her page. One sentence each, with names.

Activity 8: Word grid

Find eight words left to right. Row/column numbering begins at 1.

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F R A M E Q Z X J L
S I S T E R M N O P
D E S K V W B F Y G
T A L L Y R S T C U
H O O K S I Q Z X J
M I R R O R L M N O
S C H E D U L E K V
H U N G R Y F Y G H
Q Z X J L M N O P R
S T C U V W B F Y G

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The eight words: FRAME, SISTER, DESK, TALLY, HOOKS, MIRROR, SCHEDULE, HUNGRY. Which word names the thing Blima changes instead of herself, and which word names the evidence that changes her mind?