

# Sarah the Seagull

## By Gabrielle Sierra



Sarah the seagull and her mom lived in New York by the sea.

Every day Sarah and her mom would fly over the waves, diving in to eat the small fish and crabs that swam in the shallow water. Sometimes people would feed Sarah and her mother a sandwich or some potato chips. They always had a lot to eat.

At night, Sarah and her mother would rest under the roof of a nearby building. They were warm, and they had a nice life.

But one day it started to get colder. The little fish that were always swimming in the waves were a lot harder to find. There were no more people coming to the beach, so no one was there to feed Sarah and her mother any sandwiches or chips.

“It is time to fly south for the winter,” said Sarah’s mom.

“Why?” asked Sarah.

“Because it has gotten too cold here,” explained Sarah’s mom. “Too cold for us to live here right now. There is no food, and it will soon get even colder.”

“But this is our home,” said Sarah.

“Don’t worry,” said Sarah’s mom. “We will come back when it is warm again. We are birds, we can change where we live and still be happy. We can have more than one home.”

So Sarah and her mom said goodbye to the beach and flew away. They flew and they flew, until they were out of the cold and back into the warm weather. They flew all the way to Miami, Florida.

There, they found a new beach. It was filled with fish, and there were lots of people to give them sandwiches and chips. Sarah’s mom even found a new roof for them to sleep under.

“I like this other home,” said Sarah. “It is warm, and we have food. This is a nice place too.”

“I told you it would be nice,” said Sarah’s mom. “And when it gets warmer in New York again, we will go back. That is the nice part about being a bird. We can fly to new places whenever we want.”

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1.** Why do Sarah and her mom fly south?

- A** because there are too many fish where they live
- B** because they are tired of living in New York
- C** because the weather gets colder

**2.** Where does the beginning of the story take place?

- A** Canada
- B** Florida
- C** New York

**3.** Where does the end of the story take place?

- A** Canada
- B** Florida
- C** New York

**4.** The weather in New York is getting too cold for Sarah and her mom to live in. There is not enough food for them to eat.

What do these two sentences explain?

- A** why Sarah and her mom fly to Florida.
- B** why Sarah does not like living in New York.
- C** why Sarah likes to eat small fish and crabs.

**5.** What is this story mainly about?

- A** a seagull, her mother, and why they fly south for the winter
- B** the places different birds travel to throughout the year
- C** the weather in Florida and New York during the winter months

**6.** Read the following sentences: "There, they found a new **beach**. It was filled with fish, and there were lots of people to give them sandwiches and chips."

What does the word **beach** mean?

- A** land far away from water
- B** land next to water
- C** the deepest part of the sea

**7.** Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Sarah likes her new home \_\_\_\_\_ it is warm and has food.

- A** but
- B** before
- C** because

**8.** When the weather became cold in New York, Sarah and her mom

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**9.** Why does Sarah like Florida?

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**10.** Sarah's mom says that she and Sarah will return to New York again when it gets warmer.

Explain whether Sarah and her mother will probably fly back again to Florida after that?

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**Teacher Guide & Answers**

**Passage Reading Level:** Lexile 710

**Passage Summary:** "Sarah the Seagull" is about a seagull, her mother, and the trip they take when the weather gets cold.

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7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

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- A but
- B before
- C **because**

8. When the weather became cold in New York, Sarah and her mom \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Suggested answer (answers may vary but should resemble the following):**

- "When the weather became cold in New York, Sarah and her mom flew south."
- "When the weather became cold in New York, Sarah and her mom went to a beach in Florida."

9. Why does Sarah like Florida?

**Suggested answer:** Sarah likes Florida because it is warm and has food.

10. Sarah's mom says that she and Sarah will return to New York again when it gets warmer.

Explain whether Sarah and her mother will probably fly back again to Florida after that?

**Suggested answer (answers may vary):** Yes, Sarah and her mom will come back to Florida. When it gets cold again next winter in New York, they will want to go somewhere warm. They will probably choose Florida because they both think it is nice.