

Name: _____

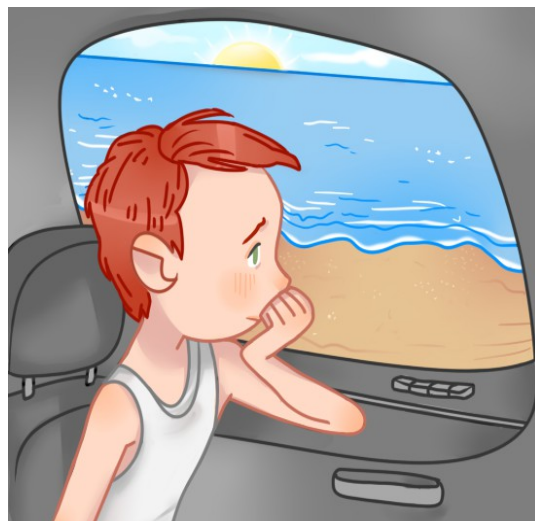
Just Be Patient

By Kelly Hashway

"How much longer until we get there?" Jared asked for the fourth time in the last ten minutes. He couldn't believe how much traffic there was on the way to the beach.

"Jared, you really need to be more patient. We can't control the traffic," Mom said.

"Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave." Dad wiped his brow and cranked up the air conditioning in the car.



Jared sighed. He could see the water, but it still seemed so far away. As the car inched closer, Jared tapped his foot.

"Jared, please," Dad said. "That tapping is driving me crazy."

"There's a parking space right there," Mom said, pointing up ahead.

Jared jerked up in his seat. "Finally!" The car was barely parked when Jared unhooked his seat belt and opened his door.

"Hold on," Mom said. "You have to help carry our chairs and the umbrella."

Dad pulled a chair out of the trunk and handed it to Jared. Loaded up with gear, Jared followed his parents onto the beach. Finding a spot wasn't easy. The sand burned Jared's feet, and he hadn't even taken off his flip-flops yet. "What about here?" Jared asked.

"Too many people," Dad said. "Keep walking."

Jared stared at the people splashing in the cool water. He was dying to go in the ocean. "Here?" He pointed to a spot close to the water.

"Our towels will get wet when the tide comes in," Mom said. "Keep going."

Just when Jared didn't think he could take the heat any longer, they found a spot. Jared threw down his stuff and started for the water.

"Hang on," Mom said. "You need sun block."

Jared stomped back and grabbed the sunblock, applying it as fast as he could. "Now, can I go?" he asked.

"I want to get a picture," Mom said.

Dad held up his hand. "Let the boy swim first. He's hot."

Jared mouthed a "thank you" to his dad before running into the water. As soon as the waves touched him, Jared felt better.

He swam for hours. Finally, his parents swam over to him.

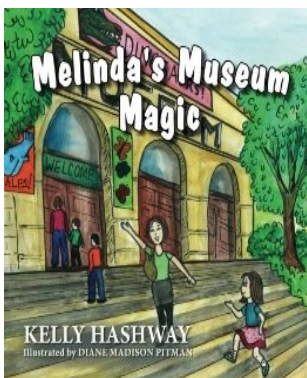
"Time to get going, buddy," Dad said.

"What's the rush, Dad? Aren't you and Mom always saying I need to be more patient?" Jared asked.

Mom laughed. "He has a point. And if we stay a little longer, some of the crowd will leave, which means less traffic on the way home."

"Yeah, Dad," Jared said with a smile. "Just be patient."

About the Author



Kelly Hashway's picture book, *Melinda's Museum Magic*, is now available!

Melinda is taking her first trip to the museum, and her mother promises it will be magical. But when the exhibits start coming to life in ways that only Melinda can see, she'll learn the real magic of the museum.

Hashway, Kelly. *Melinda's Museum Magic* ISBN: 978-0615814216

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1. When Jared was in the car, he was feeling...
- a. patient
 - b. impatient
 - c. nervous
 - d. relaxed

2. Tell what order these events happened in the story.
Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th on each line.

_____ Jared's father parked the truck.

_____ Jared's family searched for a spot on the beach.

_____ Jared swam in the ocean.

_____ Jared's mother told him to be patient.

_____ Jared put sunblock on.

3. Why did Jared say thank you to his dad before swimming in the water?
- a. His dad wanted to leave the beach.
 - b. His dad helped carry chairs to the beach.
 - c. His dad went in the water with him.
 - d. His dad told his mom to take pictures later.

4. Think about the following sentence from the story and answer the question.

Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave.

What does this sentence mean?

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Just Be Patient

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. _____ patient | a. hurry |
| 2. _____ traffic | b. chemical to protect skin from sunburn |
| 3. _____ heat wave | c. able to wait calmly |
| 4. _____ seat belt | d. rising and falling of water in the ocean |
| 5. _____ gear | e. cars moving on a road |
| 6. _____ tide | f. equipment |
| 7. _____ sun block | g. many days of hot weather |
| 8. _____ rush | h. strap in a car worn by passengers for protection |

❖ **Now try this:** Find all of the words above in the story and highlight them.

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Just Be Patient

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In the story, “Just Be Patient,” Jared was impatient to get to the beach.

Write about a time when you felt impatient. Explain what you were excited for and tell how long you had to wait.



This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. In the top right corner, there is a small, stylized cartoon illustration. It depicts a person's arm and hand, wearing a light blue sleeveless shirt, reaching out towards a dark grey or black surface that resembles a car door. A silver-colored handle is visible on the surface. The illustration is partially cut off by the right edge of the page.

ANSWER KEY

Just Be Patient

By Kelly Hashway



1. When Jared was in the car, he was feeling... **b**
 - a. patient
 - b. **impatient**
 - c. nervous
 - d. relaxed

2. Tell what order these events happened in the story.
Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th on each line.

2nd Jared's father parked the truck.

3rd Jared's family searched for a spot on the beach.

5th Jared swam in the ocean.

1st Jared's mother told him to be patient.

4th Jared put sunblock on.

3. Why did Jared say thank you to his dad before swimming in the water? **d**
 - a. His dad wanted to leave the beach.
 - b. His dad helped carry chairs to the beach.
 - c. His dad went in the water with him.
 - d. **His dad told his mom to take pictures later.**

4. Think about the following sentence from the story and answer the question.

Nothing drives traffic to the beach like a heat wave.

What does this sentence mean?

People all want to come to the beach when the weather is hot.

ANSWER KEY

Just Be Patient

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.



- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. c patient | a. hurry |
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