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Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Benchmark

Grade 6

Student Materials

Changing Bedtime

Tensions are running high in the Groff home as talks on summer bedtime rules continue. The household is evenly divided into two camps. So far, there is no sign that either side will surrender.

At eight o'clock this evening, the younger Groffs, Ben and Lu, brought their demands to their parents. It appears they had been organizing for some time and were prepared for a fight. They asked for a later bedtime. They said they ought to be allowed to stay up until ten o'clock in the summer. In support of their request, they pointed to the facts that they have no school in the morning and that it doesn't get dark until late in the summer. They also said that everyone else gets to stay up late and it's not fair.

Their parents responded by offering an eight-thirty bedtime. This would be a half hour gain for the younger Groffs. The younger Groffs rejected this offer. They declared it so far below their original request as to be insulting. The mother of the Groff family gave a speech about the need of growing bodies for proper sleep. The father made a statement about the parents' need to not have kids running around all night. The younger Groffs characterized the mother's speech as dumb. It was typical of their style, they claimed. They disapproved the father's words, calling them irrational, depicting events that would never happen.

The issue remains unresolved. The younger Groffs' skill at arguing could keep them out of bed until their desired bedtime. Should this occur, they could then claim they had been allowed to stay up late before, and so they should be allowed to stay up late again. If their parents can be convinced that a later bedtime has not caused a loss in quality behavior, they might back down. However, another possibility is that their parents are used to stalling tactics and will not be moved by them.