

# Why I am Afraid of Balloons

Some people are scared of spiders, snakes, or high places. But, me, I'm afraid of balloons. I am not the only person who is afraid of them. I read about it on the internet. It's called globophobia.

It started when I was little. My mom gave me a balloon to play with. I was so little, I didn't know what it was. It was bright red. I thought it might be good to eat, like cotton candy. It popped when I tried to take a bite. After that, I wanted nothing to do with balloons.

It's not usually a problem. But sometimes it's embarrassing. Last week I went to my friend Lila's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Of course, there were balloons. I was so nervous! I covered my ears whenever I thought one might pop. I pretended I had to go to the bathroom so I could leave the room. The other kids probably thought I was bananas, but I just couldn't help it!

Maybe when I grow up, I will invent a kind of balloon that does not make noise when it pops. Then I will have balloons at my parties too!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME

## Show What You Know

1. From which point of view is this passage written?  
a) first person    b) second person    c) third person

Give evidence from passage the to support your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What caused the narrator have globophobia?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What does the word, "bananas" mean at the end of paragraph 3?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Besides being afraid of balloons, what are two other things you can infer about the narrator of this passage? Explain how you know.

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_