

The Stamp Collector

Carlos grabbed the envelope from Rosa's hand.

"Don't tell me," said Rosa. "You want the stamp. Is there anything more boring than collecting stamps? You put them in a book and then what? You can't even play with them."

"What do *you* know?" replied Carlos. "You collect beads."

"I don't collect them. I make beautiful bead jewelry," Rosa said. "People can wear my jewelry. What good is a book of stamps?"

That evening Carlos cut a stamp from a postcard he had bought at a yard sale. It was a 30¢ stamp with a picture of George Washington on it. He looked it up in a stamp catalog. Carlos carefully matched his stamp with the picture in the catalog. Suddenly he began jumping around. "One of my stamps is worth between 100 and 300 dollars!" Carlos exclaimed.

"Let me see that!" Rosa demanded.

"No," Carlos laughed. "You said looking at stamps is boring."

Strategy If you're having trouble, this would be a good place to stop and do something about it. Sum up the story so far. That might help.

Skill You've read several details so far. What would you say is the main idea of this story?