Read this story about Iris and Walter and their school field trip to an aquarium to look at fish. Then answer the questions that follow.

**from Iris and Walter and the Field Trip**
by Elissa Haden Guest

**The Bus Ride**

On Friday morning, Miss Cherry said, “We are very lucky to have Jenny’s mother come on the field trip with us today.”

Jenny gave her mother a big hug.

“I know we are going to have a great time,” said Miss Cherry.

“Now let’s go over the rules. Remember, pay attention. Hang on to your partner. Stay with the group. And if you get lost, stay where you are and I will find you,” said Miss Cherry.

“I’ve never been lost, have you?” Iris asked Lulu.

“No. And I sure wouldn’t want to be,” said Lulu.

“That would be scary,” said Benny.

“Really scary,” said Walter.

The children climbed aboard the school bus. Iris and Walter chose the very last seat. They bounced up and down.

Benny told knock-knock jokes. Lulu made up silly fish songs. Everyone was happy and excited. Nobody thought any more about getting lost.

**Where’s Walter?**

When the bus pulled up in front of the aquarium, Iris said, “Look at all the people!”

“Hey, Walter,” said Benny. “That boy is wearing a shirt just like yours.”

“He is!” said Walter.

“Now children, it’s very crowded here, so keep your eyes on me,” said Miss Cherry.

The children walked down a dark hallway. Everywhere they looked there were fish.

“Ooh,” they whispered.

“Sharks!” said Benny.

“They look mean,” said Iris.

While the children were looking at the sharks, Miss Cherry and Jenny’s mother counted everyone. “Okay, follow me,” said Miss Cherry.

They came to the coral reef. “Wow!” said Iris and Benny.

Walter could not say a word. He watched the angelfish swim and shimmer, the hermit crabs scurry, and the sea grass sway.
had never seen anything as wonderful as the coral reef.

“Are we going to see the penguins soon?” asked Iris.

“That’s our next stop,” said Miss Cherry. And she counted everyone again. “Off we go,” said Miss Cherry.

They walked past the starfish. They walked past the sea horses. “Oh, look, there are the penguins!” said Iris, taking Walter’s hand. “Don’t you think they are cute, Walter?” But Walter didn’t answer.


Iris looked all around. There were crowds of children. She could not see Walter anywhere. “There you are, Nick!” shouted a woman. “I’ve been looking all over for you.” Nick grabbed his teacher’s hand and held on tight.

Iris ran to Miss Cherry. “Miss Cherry, I can’t find Walter!” she said.

“Walter’s lost?” asked Jenny. “I can’t find him anywhere!” said Iris.

The Rescue

“Don’t worry,” said Miss Cherry. “I will find Walter. Now, I want everyone to stay with Jenny’s mother.”

“Please let me come with you,” said Iris.

Miss Cherry looked at Iris’s worried face. “Come, Iris. You and I shall find Walter,” said Miss Cherry.

They walked past the starfish. They did not see Walter.

They walked by the sea horses, but Walter was not there.

Iris thought about Walter, lost and alone. “Poor Walter. He must be really scared,” she said.

“We will find him,” said Miss Cherry. But there were so many people. How would they ever find Walter in the big crowd?

Suddenly, Iris saw him. “There he is! There’s Walter!” she cried. Walter was still standing in front of the coral reef, watching the fish swim around and around.

“Walter, we’ve been looking for you everywhere!” said Iris.

“Huh?” said Walter. “I was so worried,” said Iris. “Why?” asked Walter. “Because you were lost!” said Iris. “I was?” he asked.

Iris and Miss Cherry gave Walter a big hug. “I’m very happy to see you, Walter,” said Miss Cherry. “And now, I think it’s a good time to have our picnic. Don’t you?”
12 Explain how Walter gets lost and explain how he is found. Use details from the story.