**ATOS - 4.2**

**Words - 223**

**Mary and the Parade**

Mary was going downtown to watch the parade. She skipped and ran along the street because she could hardly wait to get there. She loved to watch parades in the summer. But today was one of the hottest days of the summer. She got there early so she could find a good place to stand and watch the parade.

Pretty soon she could hear the music of a band coming down the main street. As she looked she could see a large band playing very loud music. The people in the band were dressed in red jackets and pants and wearing big hats with white feathers in them. Their jackets and pants looked like they were very warm for such a hot summer day. Mary wondered why they were wearing such warm clothes on such a hot summer day. The people in the band didn’t look like they were having a lot of fun.

All of a sudden a boy in the middle of the band stopped and fell down in the street. He lay on the ground as the band kept marching over him. Mary ran over to him and dragged him off the street. She gave him a bottle of cold pop to drink. The boy looked at Mary and said to her in a very quiet voice, “that really hurt!”