

HIDE -and-Seek

The title 'HIDE and-Seek' is rendered in large, colorful, 3D block letters. The word 'HIDE' is in blue, yellow, pink, and orange. 'and-Seek' is in pink and purple. Illustrations of children are integrated with the letters: a girl peeks from behind the 'H', a boy is inside the 'I', a bird sits on the 'D', and another boy is running behind the 'E'.

ENGLISH FOR CHILDREN

Learning English by Stories
(book 1)

Ginger
the Giraffe





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English for Children

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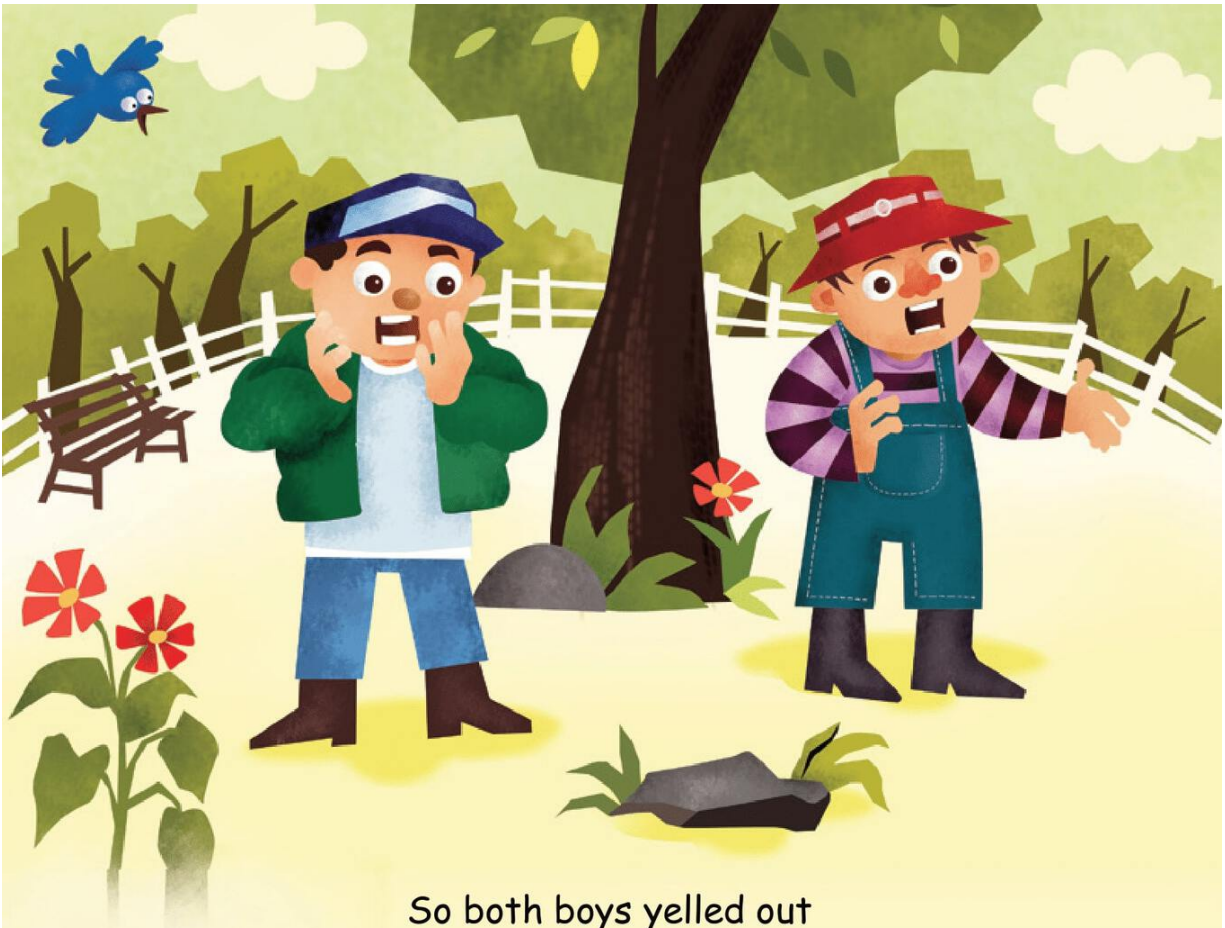
-and-Seek



Finding Sally was easy.
She always ran off and then circled back
so she would be close to "base,"
the safe place to get to before being tagged.
Mark looked for the biggest tree
and ran towards it.
But she wasn't there.
"I'll bet she's behind that big bush,"
he said to himself.
So he ran to it and was ready to tag her,
but she wasn't there either.



As he turned around, he saw James running towards "base" and darted after him. Just before he touched James' shoulder, James tagged the "base" and yelled out "SAFE!" "Did you get Sally yet?" James asked. "No," said Mark. "I haven't been able to find her and it's getting late and we need to be heading home."



So both boys yelled out
"Come on out Sally, it's late."

But there was no reply.
Not even a little snicker from
somewhere in the darkness.

They yelled again.

"Come on out Sally, it's late."

Still there was no reply from Sally.

They began to worry and started searching for her. As
they walked around the area they called out "Sally, come
on, we give up; you're safe."

But no matter where they looked,
or how much they called out,
Sally didn't answer.

It was as if she disappeared.



Sally was wondering what had happened.

All she could remember was
crawling under the big trunk
of a fallen tree to hide.

Now, as she looked up, she saw
several stars through a small hole above her head.

She had fallen into a hole
when she crawled under the tree trunk.

"Help!" she yelled and heard her voice
echo throughout what must have been a cave.

"HELP! Help, help, help!"



"Did you hear that, James?"

Mark said excitedly.

"Sally just yelled for help."

"Keep yelling Sally," James screamed.

"That way we can find you."

Sally heard her brother and kept screaming. After a short while the boys were standing next to the big tree trunk.

"Hey! Are you stuck under this tree?" asked James. "Kind of," Sally yelled.

"When I crawled under it to hide, I fell into a cave. Please help me, I'm scared. It's dark and I can't get out."



Mark said,
"James you stay with Sally and
I will go get my dad."
Then he dashed off into the darkness.
"Don't be scared," James said.
"I am right here with you."
"No, you're not," Sally sobbed.
"You're up there and I'm down here."
As Sally turned in the darkness of the cave,
she bumped into something,
screamed, and began to cry.



"What's wrong?" James yelled.
"There's something down here with me,"
Sally replied in a shaky voice.
Just then, Mark and his dad came
running through the woods.
Mark's father knelt down and asked Sally
if she was okay. He could hear her crying and sobbing.
"Sally, are you hurt?"
he asked. "No," she said.
"But I'm scared and there is
something down here with me."
"Stand back Sally.
I am lowering a rope and
will be down with you in a second "

will be down with you in a second.



Mark's dad tied the rope to the tree,
found the hole under the tree trunk,
wiggled a bit, and lowered
himself into the cave.
Sally could see him coming down
the rope and stopped crying.
Not only was he there but the cave became
brighter from the beam of
his flashlight as it danced
across the cave's floor and walls

across the cave's floor and walls.



As he reached the floor of the cave,
he shone the light on Sally and gave
her a big hug. "Don't be frightened,"
he said. "I'll have you out of here in no time."

Then he shone the light around
and saw that she had fallen into a small cave.

And very close to her,
in the middle of the cave,
was something wrapped in layers
of old blankets.



"Mark, James, there's something down here. I am going to tie it to the rope and I want you to pull it out." "Okay," they replied.

The boys pulled out the object, untied it, and let the loose end of the rope fall back into the cave.

The cave wasn't deep and Marks' dad boosted Sally over his head so she could crawl out. He then grabbed the rope and with a little jump, was able to grab the opening

and pull himself out.



"Let's go back to my house for a cup of hot tea.
I'll call your parents so they aren't worried,
and we'll see what treasure Sally found." He said.



When they got to Mark's house,
they sipped their tea and began unwrapping the treasure.
They carefully peeled off layers of old blankets
and cloth to reveal a wooden box.
They slowly opened it and stared in amazement.



"Oh my," Sally said in disbelief.

"I don't believe what I am seeing."

The boys and Mark's father just stared.

Inside the box were jewels of every color you could imagine.

There were diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds of all shapes and sizes. Intermixed they could see several gold coins and strands of pearls. "We're rich," the boys screamed. "Not quite," interrupted Mark's father. "Someone could have lost this and I don't think you should plan on spending any of it until we find out a little more. Besides, Sally found it." "I'll share it," Sally said happily. "That's nice Sally," replied Marks dad. But the right thing

to do is contact the authorities."



The next day, the four of them and Sally's mother drove to the police station, explained what had happened, and gave the treasure to the police to hold while they conducted their investigation. They left the police station sadly and even the double dipped ice cream cones Mark's father bought for them didn't make them smile. They drove back in silence.



Several weeks passed with no word from the police. Then, one evening, Mark's father called James, Sally, and their parents. "The police just called and I think you should come over right now," he said. "I'm afraid there is some bad news about the treasure. The police are on their way and

will explain everything when you get here."



Sally and James didn't say much during the ride to Mark's house.

Sally thought that since it was "bad news" the treasure belonged to someone else, even though they probably lost it.

"Whatever happened to 'finders-keepers'?" she mumbled. "What did you say Sally?"

her mother asked. "Oh, nothing."

Sally replied. Then she let out a long, sad sigh that echoed

through the car.



When they arrived at Mark's house,
the police were there with the treasure box.

As Sally entered,
the captain introduced himself and said,
"Sally, this is yours.

Your parents need to sign
some papers but the box and its

contents are yours."



Sally, Mark, and James shrieked with joy and danced around the room. Then Sally said, "What is the bad news?" The captain smiled and said. "The treasure is worth more money than you can imagine and with your new found wealth comes great responsibility." Sally didn't quite understand what the captain was talking about and right now

it really didn't matter.



Mark asked,
"Are you going to share?"
"Of course," Sally said.
"If you and James didn't help me
I might still be there."
Several days later Sally asked
everyone over to her house.
"I have decided what to do with
the money from the treasure after it is sold,"
she said.
"I am giving $\frac{1}{6}$ to our Mom and Dad,
 $\frac{1}{6}$ to Mark's Mom and Dad,
 $\frac{1}{6}$ to Mark, $\frac{1}{6}$ to James, and $\frac{1}{6}$ for me."
"There is an extra $\frac{1}{6}$,"

Mark proudly stated. He loved math
and was right on top of Sally's calculations.

Ginger the Giraffe



Once upon a time, there was a giraffe named Ginger.

Ginger lived in Kenya, a country in Africa. Like all giraffes, Ginger had a long neck and long legs. Because she was so tall, she was able to eat food from the very tops of the trees in the savannah. The savannah in Africa is an area with lots of grass and some trees.

Sometimes, a savannah is called grasslands. The other animals like zebras and antelopes could not reach where Ginger could reach. But Ginger always found food. She loved the leaves and the new buds of the trees.



One day, Ginger was busy eating her favorite leaves along with some other giraffes. It was a bright sunny day and there was not a cloud in the sky. It had not rained for a long time, so the grass was very dry. She heard a noise down at the bottom of her extra long legs: it was her friend, Mickey the Monkey. Mickey was trying to say something, but Ginger couldn't understand what he was saying. He looked very tired. "What's wrong?" asked Ginger. Ginger was a very kind giraffe and wanted to help everyone.

Just then Mickey fell over!



Ginger was also a smart giraffe. She knew what was wrong. Mickey couldn't find anything to eat and he was very hungry. Ginger nibbled some fresh, tender leaves and buds from the top of the tree where she was eating. She dropped some of the leaves and buds to the ground near where Mickey was. Then she nudged him a little with the hoof at the bottom of one of her very long legs. "Wake up, Mickey!" said Ginger.

"I've found something for you to eat."

Slowly Mickey sat up and ate a little.



After a while, when Mickey was feeling better, Ginger asked him, "What's happened, Mickey? Why are you so hungry? Why can't you find anything to eat?" Mickey said, "It hasn't rained for so long and now there's no more food." "That's not good," said Ginger. "What's happening with the other animals?" "No one knows what to do," answered Mickey. "All the zebras and the antelopes and the elephants are getting worried about the dry grass.

Some of them are thinking about leaving the savannah and trying to reach the jungle."

"That's a long trip," said Ginger.

"Are you going to go with them?"

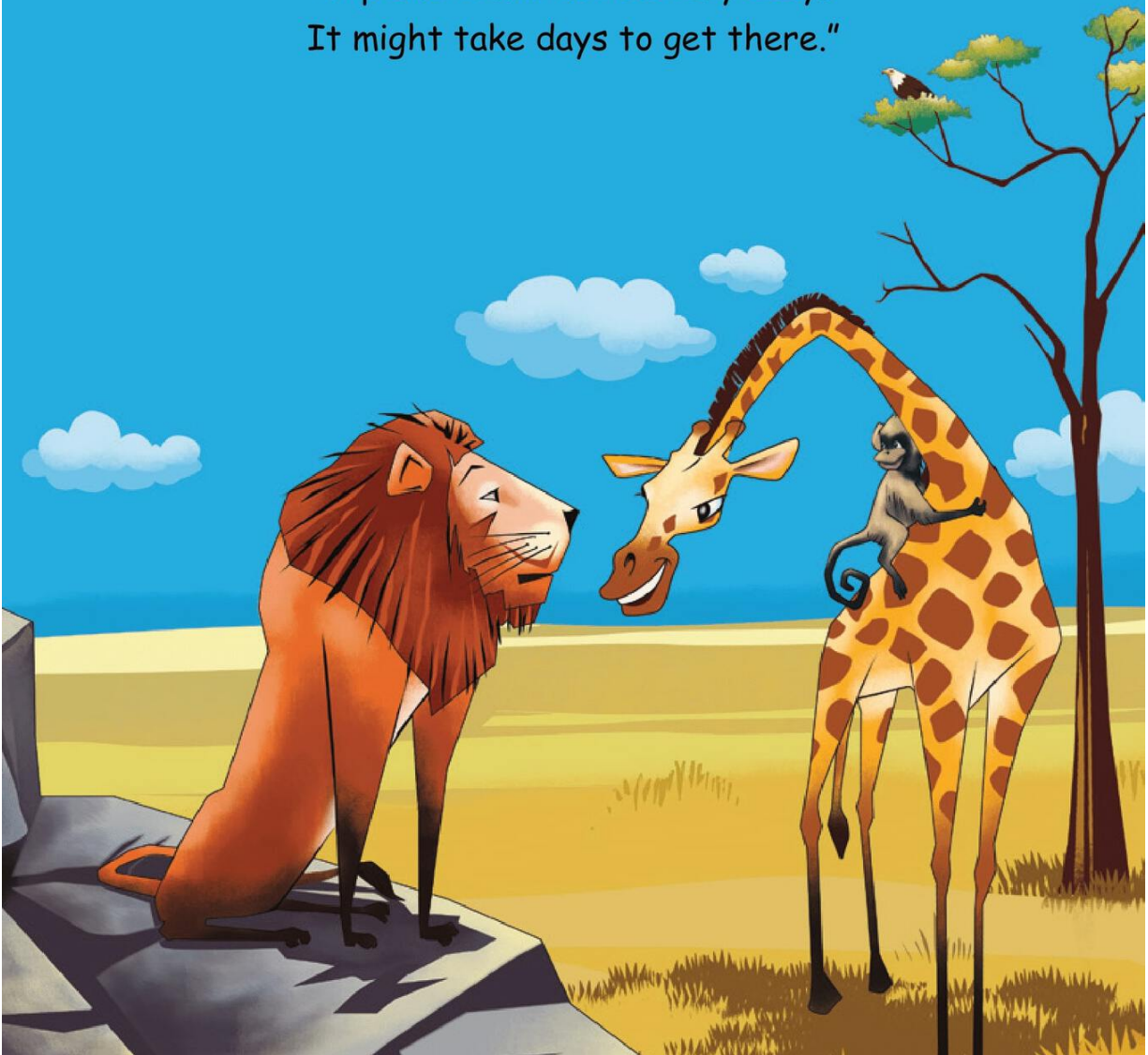


Ginger and Mickey were in luck! Leo was sitting up on a rock and he was really easy to see as they walked through the grass. "Hi, Leo!" they both shouted. Leo had been napping and was a little grumpy when they woke him up. But he was polite and said, "Hello Ginger and Mickey. Why did you walk the whole way across the savannah? Just to wake me up?" But he was joking; he had a smile on his face. "Mickey says that there is no food left on the savannah because it's been so dry," said Ginger. "Do you have any ideas?"



Leo thought for a while. He said, "There's nothing we can do about the rain. It will come soon, but we can't be sure when it will arrive. When the rain comes, all the plants will grow again and there will be lots of food for everybody."

He thought a little longer. "The only thing I can think of is for everyone to move closer to the forest," he continued. "There will be more things to eat there, but I know it's a long trip and it will not be very easy. It might take days to get there."



Ginger and Mickey looked at each other and then looked back at Leo. "Thank you, Leo," said Ginger. "It's probably best if they all try to get closer to the jungle." They said goodbye and then walked back across the savannah.


Now they needed to gather all of the animals together to start the long journey. Ginger didn't need to go along because she had plenty of food in her high trees. But she was a good friend and wanted to help as much as she could.

They walked towards her favorite trees and guess what she and Mickey saw?



All of the animals were already gathered there and waiting for Ginger and Mickey! "Why are you all here?" asked Ginger. "Eddie the Eagle told us that you're taking us to the edge of the jungle," said one of the zebras. "How did he know?" asked Mickey. "He heard you talking with Leo," said one of the antelopes. "So you've all decided to try to walk together to the jungle?" asked Ginger. "Yes," they all answered. "If you'll help us to get there," added one of the elephants. "Of course, I'll help," said Ginger. "I'm your friend."





So they started on their big journey across the savannah to the jungle. The sun was so hot and there was no food and no place to get a drink of water. And then they heard it. It was thunder! "Thunder!" they all shouted. Thunder was very scary to the animals of the savannah. Can you guess why? Fire! Sometimes the lightning hits the dry grass and the whole savannah catches fire. Then everyone has to run. And that is exactly what happened. "Fire!" they shouted. They could smell it. And now they could see it.

The fire was coming towards them!





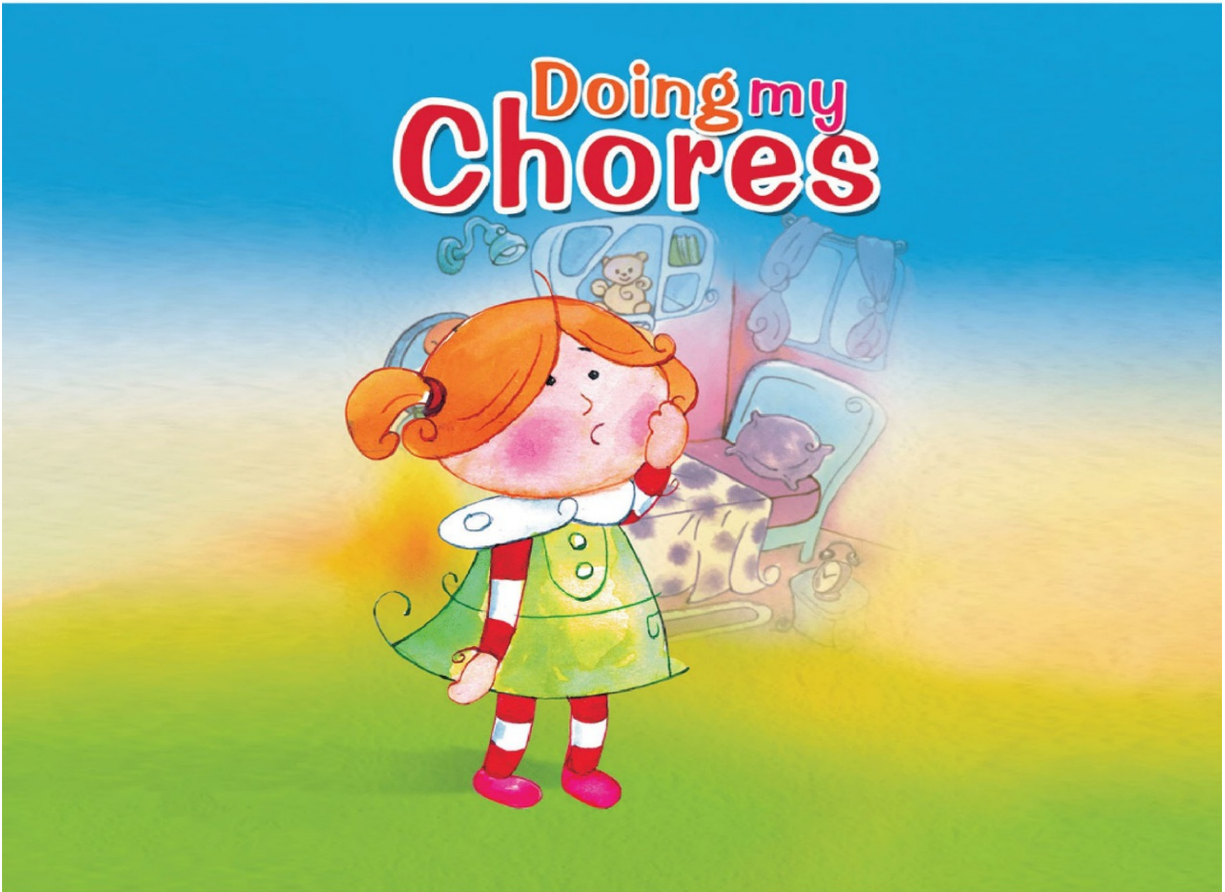
Ginger had to think fast. Because she was so tall she could see farther than any of the other animals.

She stretched her long neck up as far as she could. Now she could see a place where there was no fire. "Quick!" she said. "Everyone run this way."

All of the animals followed her and ran as fast as they could. Soon, they were out of danger. They stopped and gathered together one more time. "Is everyone here?" Ginger asked. She wanted to make sure they were all safe.

All the animals looked around; they were all there.







I like doing my chores.



Well, maybe not all of them but most of them.



Hmm, maybe not most of them. But a lot of them.



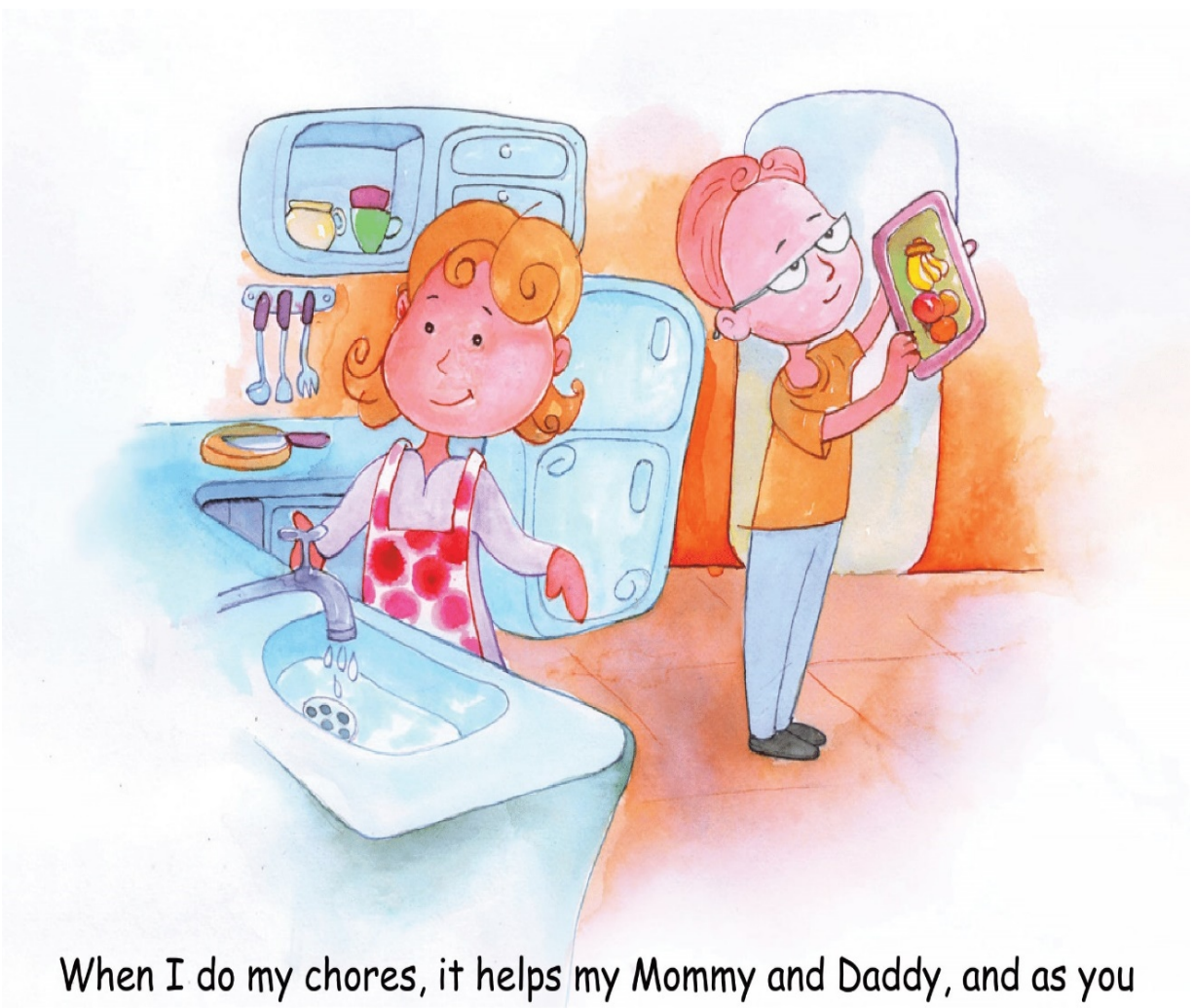
Okay, maybe not a lot of them. But a few of them.



Well, maybe not a few of them but ... None of them!



Just fooling ... I really do like doing my chores.



When I do my chores, it helps my Mommy and Daddy, and as you know Mummies and Daddies sometimes need a lot of help.



When I do my chores, it makes me feel important and I like to be important. Don't you?



Sometimes I get bored so I do some chores,
even if they are not my chores.



Sometimes I have chores that I do not like to do.
When that happens I make up a silly game and that
makes the chore easier.



Like yesterday, I had to put my laundry away and I pretended that I was hiding it from my Mommy. It was fun and I think I remember where I put it.



Just fooling ... It is in my dresser where it belongs.



Sometimes when all my chores are done, we go to the park or have other special time.



I know if my chores weren't done we wouldn't be able to do that.



"So be important and have some fun.
Do your chores until they are done."