

1- Daniel Loves the Beach



Every Saturday Daniel and his family go to the beach. They live far from the beach, but once a week the family gets into the car and Daniel's father drives for hours until they arrive.

Daniel's parents love the beach. Daniel and his sister and brother love the beach. The family's dog loves the beach very much.

But it is a problem to go to the beach every week. Daniel's father gets tired from driving so many hours. The rest of the family gets tired from sitting in the car for so many hours. Daniel's mother says: "It's fun in the beach, but it takes too much time to get there and back!"

Daniel and his sister and brother are very sad. They want to go to the beach, but it is a problem. They try to go the swimming pool, but it is not the same thing.

One day Daniel's parents come to talk with the kids. They say: "We have a problem to go to the beach every week, but we love the beach, and you love the beach, and the dog loves the beach. So we have a solution. We need to live near the beach!"

Daniel and his sister and brother are very happy! Now they live near the beach. They go to the beach every day!

THE END

2 - April's Month



There was a nice little girl. She was 10 years old. Her name was April.

One day, April asked her parents why she was called April. Her mother answered that she was called April because she was born in April. The little girl was very happy to hear that. She liked her name.

April really liked the month April, too. This was because she had her birthday in that month. Her parents made her a party. All her friends came and celebrated with her, and she received a lot of presents.

One day, her mother became pregnant and soon April had a little brother. Her brother was born in February. Everyone came to visit the family. Everyone suggested names for the new baby.

April did not understand what the problem was. This looked very simple to her. She said that if the baby was born in February, the correct name was February!

THE END

3 - Emily's Secret



Emily is 8 years old. She lives in a big house. She has a huge room. She has many toys and she has a lot of friends. But Emily is not happy. She has a secret.

She doesn't want to tell anyone about her secret. She feels embarrassed. The problem is that if nobody knows about it, there is no one that can help her.

Emily doesn't write her homework. When there is an exam – she gets sick. She doesn't tell anyone, but the truth is she can't read and write. Emily doesn't remember the letters of the alphabet.

One day, Emily's teacher finds out. She sees that Emily can't write on the board. She calls her after class and asks her to tell the truth. Emily says, "It is true. I don't know how to read and write". The teacher listens to her. She wants to help Emily. She tells her, "That's ok. You can read and write if we practice together".

So Emily and her teacher meet every day after class. They practice together. Emily works hard. Now she knows how to read and write!

THE END

4 - What are You Talking About?



Jane and Laura are walking to the mall. They want to buy new clothes. Jane has some money and Laura has some money.

Suddenly, Jane is calling: "Laura! Laura! Look at that dress! Isn't it beautiful? I want that dress, but I don't have enough money."

Laura is calling: "What are you talking about? This is an ugly dress! It is just horrible! I don't even want to see this dress."

"Ok, ok..." Jane is whispering sadly.

Suddenly Laura is calling: "Oh my god! Look at this dress! It is beautiful! I want this dress. Oh, but look at the price. It is too expensive for me."

Now Jane is calling: "What are you talking about? This is an ugly dress! It is really horrible! I don't even want to see it."

"Ok, ok..." Laura is whispering sadly.

Now Jane is sad, and Laura is sad. They are walking home. They have no new clothes, but they know that next time they should respect other opinions...

THE END

5 - Sean and the Birthday Cake



Sean likes food. He likes fruit and vegetables. He likes bread and cakes. He likes fish and dairy products. He likes meat. He eats everything!

One day he goes to a party. It is a birthday party for his friend Leo. He enjoys the party with his friends. They dance and have fun.

At the end of night, Leo's mother comes with a cake. Everyone is very happy. They like sweet cakes. Sean is also happy. He likes food!

Leo's mother slices the cake and gives every kid a piece of cake. Sean is the first one that gets a piece. At first, he is very happy, but after a few moments he turns blue. He runs outside.

When he returns, everybody is very surprised. His friend Leo asks, "Sean, is everything alright? You don't behave like yourself!"

Sean is surprised. "Why, Leo? Why do you say that?"

"Well," Leo answers, "you usually love food very much! You don't run away from food!"

Sean smiles and says, "Yes, Leo, I love food. But that cake is not food!"

THE END

6 - Amanda's Work



Amanda goes to work every day. She works in an office. She works very hard. She starts at 7 o'clock in the morning and finishes at 10 o'clock at night. She likes her work, and she wants to be a good worker, but she has one problem. Her boss is not a very good boss.

He tells her to do one thing, and then he changes his mind. He tells her to do another thing, and then he changes his mind again. He tells her to do something else, and again, changes his mind. Amanda doesn't like this. She says, "This is a waste of time!"

Today Amanda decides to talk with him. She goes to his room and says: "I like to work. I work a lot of hours. I am a good worker. But I can't work like this. We have to work better. You need to tell me what to do without changing your mind."

Amanda's boss listens to her. He sees that she is right. He promises to listen to her advice.

Now Amanda is happy. She comes to work every day. She starts at 7 o'clock and finishes at 4 o'clock, but she completes much more things than before! Amanda and her boss are happy.

THE END

7 - Nicole's Drums



Nicole has a new set of drums. She likes playing the drums. She practices playing the drums all the time.

Her parents tell her, "Nicole, we are happy that you like the drums, but you can't play the drums all the time. There are other people in the apartment. There are other people in the building. There are other people in the neighborhood. And they all want to sleep sometimes!"

Nicole listens to them. She says she understands, but she doesn't stop doing it. She practices playing the drums all the time!

Her parents complain, her sister complains, the neighbors complain. Even the cat complains!

"Ok, ok!" Nicole says, "I will be a good girl. I will do it more quietly."

But this doesn't help much. No one can work, no one can rest, and no one can sleep.

One day Nicole comes home and sees her parents and her sister in the living room. She sees new things: a guitar, a trumpet, and a piano. Nicole is very surprised! "Wow!" she says, "What is this?"

"Well," her father answers, "we see that we can't beat you, so we decide to join you!"

THE END

8 - Language Confusion



Laura is at the airport. She waits for her flight. Her flight is to Berlin, and it is 4 hours away. Laura walks around the airport and looks at the shops. She has a nice time.

After an hour she wants to visit the bathroom. She searches for it, but she doesn't find it.

"Where is the bathroom?" she asks herself.

She looks and looks but she can't find it. She starts asking people where it is.

Laura: "Excuse me sir, could you please tell me where is the bathroom?"

Man: "You mean the restroom, right?"

Laura: "No, I mean the bathroom."

Man: "Well, the restroom is over there." He says and walks away.

Laura doesn't understand. She asks a lady: "Excuse me madam, could you please tell me where is the bathroom?"

"The restroom is over there," the lady answers and walks away.

Laura is confused. "What's their problem? I need to use the bathroom and they send me to rest?! I don't need a restroom, I need the bathroom!"

After a while Laura gives up. She feels tired of all this walking and asking. She decides that maybe they are all right and she does need to rest.

She walks to the restroom. Now she is surprised. She realizes the restroom is actually the name for a public bathroom!

THE END

9 - Kevin's Car



He tells his parents, "Please, please, please, could you buy me a car?"

"No," says Kevin's mom, "You are too young to drive a car. This is dangerous."

"No," says Kevin's dad, "A car is very expensive. We can't buy you a car now."

Kevin is very sad. He wants a car. He wants a fast red sports car!

He decides to build one! He buys books and reads about the subject. He hangs around at the garage and watches the mechanics fix the cars. It is very interesting for him and he has a lot of fun.

Finally, he starts building his own car! He tells his parents about it. His father doesn't believe him. He says it's too difficult. His mother says she is worried. She doesn't want him to do anything dangerous.

After two months, Kevin invites his parents to see his creation. His parents are surprised! It is beautiful! It is red! It is shiny! It is a big toy sports car! Kevin can sit inside it and drive!

Kevin's parents are very happy and proud. Kevin's dad says: "I was sure you can do it!"

Kevin's mom says: "I was sure it was not dangerous!"

Kevin smiles and drives away.

THE END

10 - Kimberly's Acting



Kimberly works as a secretary. She answers phone calls and types letters. She makes coffee, and goes to the post office. She doesn't like her work. She is bored! "I would like to do something more exciting," she thinks, "I want an exciting job!"

Kimberly actually wants to be an actress. She goes to auditions, but she doesn't pass any. She is confused. She doesn't know what to do to solve this problem, so she decides to ask her friend Victoria.

Victoria is a good actress. She is not very famous, but she is more successful than Kimberly.

Kimberly asks Victoria to look at her acting and tell her what the problem is.

Victoria is happy to help. She watches Kimberly carefully. She takes notes. In the end, Kimberly asks her: "Well... be honest! What is wrong with me?"

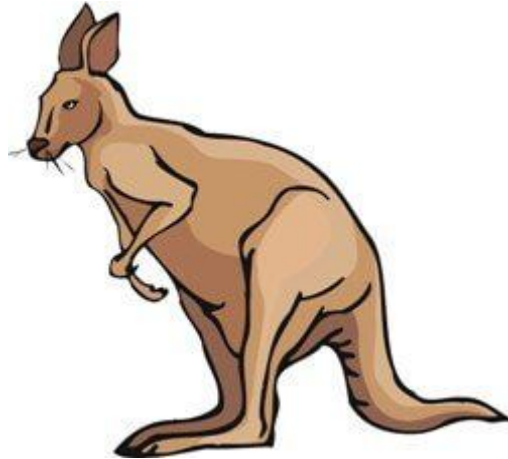
Victoria smiles and says: "Kimberly, you are a wonderful actress. You act very well. There is only one problem."

"What? What is the problem?" Kimberly calls.

"Well," Victoria answers, "You act very well, but you speak too quietly. I can't hear a word!"

THE END

11 - A Surprise from Australia



The school ends and Erica quickly puts her books in the bag and runs out of the class.

Today is a special day. Erica is very excited. She runs home and thinks about her uncle. She spoke with him on the phone a week ago. He returns from Australia, and he brings a special surprise with him!

Erica is very happy. She thinks about the surprise that he brings.

"Maybe he brings a surfboard? That is fun! I can learn how to surf!"

"Maybe he brings Australian nuts? Oh, I can eat nuts all day!"

"Or maybe he brings a kangaroo? That is not good. I don't have a place in my room for a kangaroo..."

Erica finally arrives home. Her parents are there, and her uncle is there! She is very happy to see him. They hug and she jumps up and down.

"Uncle, uncle," she calls, "what special surprise do you have for me from Australia?"

"Well," her uncle smiles and answers, "I have for you an Australian aunt!"

THE END