

At my house, Friday night is family night. Our whole family gets together to do something fun. Two weeks ago we went bowling. Last Friday we went to an art show. This week we planned to see a movie at the movie theater.	11 22 34 43
"What movie shall we see?" Dad asked.	50
"I like action movies," my brother said. "I like to watch cars crash. I like to watch super-heroes fly."	62 70
"I like animal movies," my sister said. "I want to see horses run free in fields. I want to see whales swim in the sea."	82 95
"I like funny movies," Dad said. "I laugh when people throw pies. I laugh when people tell funny jokes."	106 114
"I like movies about love," Mom said. "I like it when a man and a woman get married and live happily ever after."	127 137
"I like cartoons," I said. "I like colorful movies with a lot of music."	150 151
What could we do? Our family could not choose a movie to watch together.	163 165
Dad thought he'd solve the problem. He said, "Why don't we stay home and play a family game?" We all thought that was a good idea.	175 187 191
"Let's play puzzles!" I said.	196
"Let's play cards!" my brother said.	202
"Let's play checkers!" my sister said.	208
Dad just shook his head and rolled his eyes. "I'll be in bed," he said. Wake me when family night begins."	221 229

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Aunt Pam worked for a vet. She had lots of stories about the animals she helped save.	12
Aunt Pam liked to raise kittens when the mother cat was lost or sick.	23
One weekend Kate went to stay with Aunt Pam. Aunt Pam had three baby kittens. The kittens' eyes were not even open yet. Aunt Pam told Kate she could help take care of them.	31
The smallest kitten was black and not very strong. Another one was gray and cried a lot. The biggest one was white with black spots on his feet and ears.	42
Kate named each one. She called the black one Itty Bitty because it was so tiny. She named the gray one Dusty. She named the white one Snowman.	53
Kate thought the kittens looked sweet when they curled up in a ball and slept. Soon, they woke up and started to cry. They cried because they wanted something to eat. Aunt Pam warmed some formula, and Kate filled their small bottles.	65
"Which kitten do you want to feed?" Aunt Pam asked.	75
Kate picked Itty Bitty. Aunt Pam gave Kate a towel. She showed Kate how to wrap the kitten so it would not scratch. The kitten drank from the bottle for Kate. Kate felt grown because she could help.	88
All weekend, Kate helped her aunt with the kittens. Kate learned that it was a lot of work to take care of kittens. On Sunday night, Kate went back home. She called often to see how the kittens were. Aunt Pam said she had found good homes for Dusty and Snowball. Kate's mom said Itty Bitty could live with them! Itty Bitty would have the best home of all!	95
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Cam was a clam. He lived in the shallow waters of the sea	13
with his parents. Cam had many friends. He had fresh, clear	24
water. He had a nice hard shell. Still, he was not happy. Cam	37
was sad because he did not like his shell.	46
"All clams have shells like yours," Cam's mother told him.	56
"All clams love their shells. If you didn't have a shell on your	69
shoulders, what would you have? Now, please eat your	78
supper."	79
Cam ate his supper, even though he wasn't hungry. He	89
kept thinking about where he would live if he didn't have his	101
shell. He might be able to live in a shoe or maybe a pretty	115
glass bottle.	117
One day Cam was lying on the bottom of the bay when	129
something shiny and silver sank to the bottom next to him. It	141
was the most beautiful thing Cam had ever seen. Cam didn't	152
know it was only a soda can someone had dropped into the	164
water. Cam slipped out of his boring gray shell and into the	176
soda can.	178
Now Cam was content. When he went home for dinner, his	189
mother didn't recognize him. When she realized the clam	198
peeking out of the top of the soda can was her son, she	211
laughed. Cam shrank back into his new shell.	219
"Cam, what have you done to yourself?" she asked. "Look	229
at that pretty shell! Where did you find it?"	238

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"All clams have shells like yours," Cam's mother told him. "All clams love their shells. If you didn't have a shell on your shoulders, what would you have? Now, please eat your supper."

Cam ate his supper, even though he wasn't hungry. He kept thinking about where he would live if he didn't have his shell. He might be able to live in a shoe or maybe a pretty glass bottle.

One day Cam was lying on the bottom of the bay when something shiny and silver sank to the bottom next to him. It was the most beautiful thing Cam had ever seen. Cam didn't know it was only a soda can someone had dropped into the water. Cam slipped out of his boring gray shell and into the soda can.

Now Cam was content. When he went home for dinner, his mother didn't recognize him. When she realized the clam peeking out of the top of the soda can was her son, she laughed. Cam shrank back into his new shell.

"Cam, what have you done to yourself?" she asked. "Look at that pretty shell! Where did you find it?"

It was summer, and Cole and Meg liked to play outside every day. They also liked to play with Skipper, their new puppy. They had to play indoors with Skipper though because their mom said he was too little to play outside.	11 22 32 42
One day Grandma came over to babysit. Cole asked if he could take Skipper outside. Grandma said it was okay if they watched the puppy closely. She said, "Don't let the puppy go near the road." So Cole and Meg took Skipper outside.	53 64 75 85
Skipper liked being outside. First he chased Cole, and then he ran after Meg. Next Skipper found a ball in the garden. Cole tossed the ball to Meg. Meg and Cole had so much fun with the ball, they forgot about Skipper. Then Grandma came outside.	95 107 120 130 131
"Where is Skipper?" she asked. Meg and Cole looked around.	140 141
"He was just here," said Cole. But they could not see Skipper now.	152 154
Cole and Meg ran around the yard calling Skipper's name, but the little puppy did not come. They looked in the front yard, and they looked in the backyard. Meg started to cry.	164 177 187
Grandma drove her car and looked for Skipper, while Cole rode his bike. Meg called for Skipper from home. Ten minutes later, Skipper was still lost. Now Cole started to cry too.	197 208 219
Grandma put the car back in the garage. "Come here. Look in the flowerpot on the floor," said Grandma.	229 238
There in the empty flowerpot was Skipper. He was sleeping. He was in the garage the whole time.	247 256

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There in the empty flowerpot was Skipper. He was sleeping. He was in the garage the whole time.

Dad was upset. "I can't find my glasses," he said. "I think I	13
left them in their black case. Has anyone seen the black case?	25
Does anyone know where I put them? I have a hard time	37
reading without them."	40
"Oh no, not again," said Nate, Kate, and Beth. "You lost	51
your glasses at work last week. We haven't seen them, but	62
we'll help you look for them."	68
First Kate looked under all the beds. All she found was lots	80
of dust and a blue fuzzy slipper.	87
Nate didn't find the glasses either. Instead, he found his	97
white toy car and blue toy jeep in a box next to the stairs.	111
"Good," he said. "I've been searching for these cars. I thought	122
I left them at school after show and tell on Friday."	133
Beth found a cooking magazine in their toy chest. She also	144
found some old, sticky candy from her birthday party.	153
While looking for the glasses, the children found lots of	163
things. Behind their desk, Beth, Kate, and Nate found some	173
paper clips. Kate found her new pink bracelet. Nate found a	184
letter from his pen pal, Rick. Beth found a glob of old, hard	197
glue. The kids discovered some cards and brought them to	207
their mom. The children also found some missing socks, a	217
purple stuffed animal puppy, some sticks of gum, rubber bands,	227
and three markers. But there was no sign of the glasses.	238
Suddenly Dad yelled, "I found them! I found my glasses.	248
They were in my coat pocket, just where I left them yesterday!"	260

Dad was upset. "I can't find my glasses," he said. "I think I left them in their black case. Has anyone seen the black case? Does anyone know where I put them? I have a hard time reading without them."

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Last week Grandpa came to my house to visit. When he	11
left, he gave me and each of my sisters two dollars. "Buy	23
something you like with your money," said Grandpa.	31
My three sisters and I talked about what we could buy with	43
our money.	45
"I want something sweet," said my little sister. "I will buy	56
gum."	57
"I want something to play with," said my older sister. "I will	69
buy stickers."	71
"I want something to do," said my oldest sister. "I will rent a	84
movie."	85
Mom said those were all good ideas. Today after school,	95
Mom told us some sad news. "Grandpa is feeling lonely today.	106
What could we do to help him?"	113
My sisters and I felt sad for Grandpa. We did not want him	126
to feel lonely. Then I remembered that we hadn't spent our	137
money yet. I told my sisters I had an idea.	147
We called Grandpa and told him to put on his coat and hat	160
and shoes. We told him to walk to the end of his block at four	175
o'clock and wait for a ride.	181
Soon it was four fifteen. We looked out our window, and	192
there was Grandpa. My sisters and I ran out to meet him.	204
"Grandpa, you made it!" we yelled as we hugged Grandpa.	214
"We put our money together to buy you a cab ride. Now you	227
are here with us!"	231
That day we all got something we wanted with our money.	242
We got Grandpa.	245

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My sisters and I felt sad for Grandpa. We did not want him to feel lonely. Then I remembered that we hadn't spent our money yet. I told my sisters I had an idea.

We called Grandpa and told him to put on his coat and hat and shoes. We told him to walk to the end of his block at four o'clock and wait for a ride.

Soon it was four fifteen. We looked out our window, and there was Grandpa. My sisters and I ran out to meet him.

"Grandpa, you made it!" we yelled as we hugged Grandpa. "We put our money together to buy you a cab ride. Now you are here with us!"

That day we all got something we wanted with our money. We got Grandpa.

I can say many numbers. First I say "one," and then I say	13
"two." I can count very high, but I can't count every number.	25
Even though I can write many numbers, I can never write every	37
number. I would run out of time and space before I could	49
finish. Numbers keep going forever.	54
I see numbers just about anywhere I look. Numbers help	64
us every day. You can put them together to add. You can take	77
them away to subtract. Numbers help measure how long,	86
short, and wide things are. Numbers tell us how much food	97
and toys cost. They tell us how many miles we have left to	110
drive until we get home. Numbers tell us how fast we ran a	123
race. They let us know how many points our team scored in a	136
game. Numbers tell us how tall we are. They help us figure	148
out how much we've grown. They let us know what size our	160
hands and feet are. Numbers tell us how much longer a cake	172
needs to bake before it's done.	178
What number do you like the best? Is it two? Is it	190
seventeen? Is it thirty? I like lots of numbers, but I don't have	203
one that I like better than the rest.	211
What is your favorite way to use numbers? Do you like to	223
add? Do you like to subtract? Do you like to measure? There	235
are so many great ways to use numbers that I can't pick just	248
one.	249

I can say many numbers. First I say "one," and then I say "two." I can count very high, but I can't count every number. Even though I can write many numbers, I can never write every number. I would run out of time and space before I could finish. Numbers keep going forever.

I see numbers just about anywhere I look. Numbers help us every day. You can put them together to add. You can take them away to subtract. Numbers help measure how long, short, and wide things are. Numbers tell us how much food and toys cost. They tell us how many miles we have left to drive until we get home. Numbers tell us how fast we ran a race. They let us know how many points our team scored in a game. Numbers tell us how tall we are. They help us figure out how much we've grown. They let us know what size our hands and feet are. Numbers tell us how much longer a cake needs to bake before it's done.

What number do you like the best? Is it two? Is it seventeen? Is it thirty? I like lots of numbers, but I don't have one that I like better than the rest.

What is your favorite way to use numbers? Do you like to add? Do you like to subtract? Do you like to measure? There are so many great ways to use numbers that I can't pick just one.

"I wish I could ride a bike," sighed Mary. "Every time I try, I fall off and get hurt. I'll never be able to ride a bike."	14
Mark looked at Mary's sad face.	27
"You can learn to ride a bike. It's not that hard. I'll help you!"	33
"It hurts too much when I fall on the sidewalk," complained Mary.	46
"You can learn to ride your bike on the grass. It's a little harder to pedal, but the grass is softer to land on, and you won't get hurt," explained Mark. "Get on the bike while I hold it up for you. You just start pedaling when you're ready."	47
Mary got on her bike.	58
Mary began pedaling slowly, and Mark held on to keep the bike from tipping over. Mary pedaled faster as she steered the bike around the house. Mark ran alongside, trying to keep up. Finally, he had to let go.	59
Mary kept pedaling.	72
"You're biking!" screamed Mark. "I knew you could do it!"	85
Mary looked up at Mark and smiled. She wasn't watching where she was going. Suddenly, the bike hit a small bump, and it tipped over on its side with Mary underneath.	98
"It didn't hurt!" exclaimed Mary. "You were right, Mark! The grass is much softer to fall on! I'm going to keep practicing until I can ride around the house without falling. It's not so hard when you're not afraid to fall!"	108
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visit me. It never snows where Rob lives, so he had never seen	25
snow before. He didn't believe me when I told him that white	37
flakes fall from the sky.	42
"When you pack to visit us, bring warm clothes," I told him.	54
Rob packed jeans, sweatshirts, and one sweater.	61
The first few days at my house, Rob kept asking, "When will	73
it snow?" He brought his sweater to school every day in case of	86
a snowstorm.	88
After school one day, Rob and I walked home. We noticed	99
the wind was colder. It nipped at our hands. Gray clouds filled	111
the sky. Soon icy rain stung our faces and made the sidewalk	123
slippery.	124
"Look!" said Rob, "There are little white flies all around."	134
"Those are little snowflakes," I laughed. We opened our	143
mouths to taste the cold flakes. Rob scooped up some flakes of	155
snow and threw them at me.	161
"There really are flakes falling from the sky!" he yelled.	171
The rest of the day, Rob and I played outside. We rolled in	184
the snow. We slid down hills. We made a snow fort and a	197
snowman. Rob piled snow into the pocket of his warm sweater.	208
"I am going to bring this snow with me when I go back	221
home," he said.	224
"Only if you don't mind getting wet when the snow melts," I	236
said.	237

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"I am going to bring this snow with me when I go back home," he said.

"Only if you don't mind getting wet when the snow melts," I said.

All summer I've wanted the three-speed mountain bike in the bike shop window. It is shiny black. It has hand brakes. It even has a holder for my water bottle. I spent every Saturday this summer admiring the shiny, black, three-speed bike.	10 23 35 44
Today Dad drove a friend and me to the bike shop. In my pocket, I had the money I saved for the bike.	57 67
"I will buy the shiny, black, three-speed bike today!" I said to my friend.	79 82
"Maybe you should look around first," Dad said.	90
When I entered the bike shop, I saw many other bikes. I told the shop owner that I wanted to buy the shiny, black, three-speed bike.	102 115 117
"Maybe you should look around first," the owner said.	126
I looked at a bright green dirt bike. It had cool tires and a sticker with the word "Fearless." I looked at a big red bike. It was a ten-speed bike that was very light. The bike shop owner said it could travel very fast. I looked at scooters and trikes. I looked at bikes with training wheels and bikes with only one wheel. Finally, it was time to buy a bike.	140 153 166 179 190 199
"Do you know which bike you want to buy?" Dad said.	210
I looked at the bikes. I looked at my friend. I looked at the bike shop owner. "I want the shiny, black, three-speed bike!" I said.	224 236 237

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It all began when my mom bought Sweet Treats cereal.	10
The box said there was a secret spy ring inside!	20
"I want the secret spy ring," I said.	28
"The first one to open the cereal box gets the prize," said my big brother.	40 43
I awoke early Monday morning. I wanted to eat Sweet Treats cereal before my sister. The secret spy ring would be mine!	53 64 65
I entered the kitchen. My little sister was there! She had a bowl of Sweet Treats cereal.	77 82
I grabbed the cereal box. I stuck my hand inside. I tried to reach the prize but couldn't find it. My little sister smiled at me.	95 108
"Give me the secret spy ring," I said.	116
"I got it first," she said.	122
I tried to pull the secret spy ring off my sister's finger. My sister got mad. She dumped her bowl of cereal on my head. I was mad, so I scooped up a handful of soggy cereal and flung it at her.	135 148 161 164
My big brother heard the scream. He ran down and saw the mess. "Mom! Dad! Come see what the kids did!" he yelled.	175 186 187
Dad stomped downstairs. It was early. He was tired. He took the secret spy ring and gave it to my sister. He told me to clean up. Next time we buy Sweet Treats cereal maybe I'll get the prize.	197 212 224 226

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It was a cold day, and Dad was taking my sister and me ice fishing. Since the ice on the lake was about five inches thick, the lake was safe to walk on.	14 26 33
Dad asked me to carry the bucket. My sister carried the little fishing poles we use for ice fishing. We walked half way across the lake together, and Dad showed us his favorite secret spot. He chopped three holes in the ice, while I scooped the ice out of the holes. We were sure we would catch lots of fish.	44 56 66 78 92 93
My sister was the first one to catch a fish. First her bobber disappeared under the water. Then she reeled it in. It was a nice, big sunfish. Dad took it off the hook.	106 118 127
I wanted to catch a fish too. I felt a little jerk on my line, and my bobber started to sink. Oh boy! I had a fish! It was hard to reel it in by myself, so Dad helped me.	142 156 167
We fished until we caught our limit, then we returned home. We helped Dad clean the fish in the garage. Dad was careful with the knife. He did a good job, making sure he got the bones out and the scales off.	177 189 202 209
We were hungry after a busy morning of ice fishing. Dad said we could fry the fish for lunch. We used butter and spices to make the fish very yummy!	220 233 239

It was a cold day, and Dad was taking my sister and me ice fishing. Since the ice on the lake was about five inches thick, the lake was safe to walk on.

Dad asked me to carry the bucket. My sister carried the little fishing poles we use for ice fishing. We walked half way across the lake together, and Dad showed us his favorite secret spot. He chopped three holes in the ice, while I scooped the ice out of the holes. We were sure we would catch lots of fish.

My sister was the first one to catch a fish. First her bobber disappeared under the water. Then she reeled it in. It was a nice, big sunfish. Dad took it off the hook.

I wanted to catch a fish too. I felt a little jerk on my line, and my bobber started to sink. Oh boy! I had a fish! It was hard to reel it in by myself, so Dad helped me.

We fished until we caught our limit, then we returned home. We helped Dad clean the fish in the garage. Dad was careful with the knife. He did a good job, making sure he got the bones out and the scales off.

We were hungry after a busy morning of ice fishing. Dad said we could fry the fish for lunch. We used butter and spices to make the fish very yummy!

It was the first baseball game, and Jill was excited. She put	12
on her uniform. The team had practiced hard, so Jill knew they	24
were ready. Her team was called the Lions. Jill played first	35
base. She could catch any ball that came her way. Batting	46
was hard for her though. She sometimes struck out. When	56
she did get on base, she could run fast.	65
Dad brought Jill to the game. When she got there, she saw	77
her team warming up. Jill grabbed her glove. Dad gave her a	89
hug and told her to have fun.	96
The other team was called the Bears. The Bears were first	107
to bat. Jill was ready. The batter swung at the ball, and it went	121
way up into the air. Jill watched the ball and got ready to catch	135
it. She put up her glove, and the ball landed in her mitt.	148
Hurray! She caught the first fly ball!	155
Soon it was the Lions' turn to bat. The first three batters for	168
the Lions got hits. Jill was waiting for her turn to bat. She	181
swung bats to warm up. Her teammates had scored two runs	192
already. Jill was nervous as she went to bat. Her coach told	204
her to bunt, so Jill bunted. She ran fast to first base and just	218
made it. The other team overthrew the ball. Her coach told her	230
to keep running. She made it to second! Now she waited for	242
the next batter to get her to home plate.	251

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The other team was called the Bears. The Bears were first to bat. Jill was ready. The batter swung at the ball, and it went way up into the air. Jill watched the ball and got ready to catch it. She put up her glove, and the ball landed in her mitt. Hurray! She caught the first fly ball!

Soon it was the Lions' turn to bat. The first three batters for the Lions got hits. Jill was waiting for her turn to bat. She swung bats to warm up. Her teammates had scored two runs already. Jill was nervous as she went to bat. Her coach told her to bunt, so Jill bunted. She ran fast to first base and just made it. The other team overthrew the ball. Her coach told her to keep running. She made it to second! Now she waited for the next batter to get her to home plate.

Joey liked to visit his Grandpa and Grandma. Today he	10
played with their old train set and read their classic books. He	22
helped Grandpa finish a puzzle of a shark swimming in the	33
ocean. He played "Go Fish" with Grandpa and made lunch	43
with Grandma. After lunch, Grandpa took a nap while	52
Grandma worked on some bills. The old house was so quiet	63
Joey could hear the clock's tick-tock in the den downstairs.	74
"I want to play football with someone," Joey said.	83
Grandpa's legs were tired, and Grandma's back hurt. Since	92
Joey had no one to play with, he sat on the front steps. While	106
he sat there, he threw his football up and down.	116
Soon Joey saw someone his size next door. Maybe he	126
would have a friend to play with! He slowly walked across the	138
yard. He stood behind a large tree and looked next door. Oh	150
no! It was just a girl. She wouldn't want to play football.	162
As Joey began to tiptoe back to Grandpa's house, he heard	173
a voice. "Want to play?" asked the girl. Joey turned around	184
and studied the girl. She had long blond hair and blue eyes.	196
She was wearing shiny shoes and a fancy yellow skirt.	206
"She'll just want to play dolls or jump rope," Joey thought.	217
Joey turned around to run home, but the girl ran to him and	230
grabbed the football. She ran back and passed the football to	241
Joey. What a pass! The football sailed through the air. Joey	252
reached out to catch the ball. Before he knew it, the football	264
bounced off his head. He fell to the ground. Maybe girls could	276
play football after all.	280

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Kim was happy because she lost her first tooth!	9
"Put your tooth under your pillow so the Tooth Fairy can come," said Mother.	20 23
"The Tooth Fairy will take your tooth and leave you some money," said Father.	34 37
Kim thought all day about the Tooth Fairy.	45
"I would rather catch the Tooth Fairy than get money," she said. "Then she could be my little friend. We could play games together. She can fly, so she could teach me to fly too. That would be better than money."	56 68 81 86
"The Tooth Fairy is smart," Mother said. "It would be hard to catch her."	97 100
"I am smart too!" Kim said.	106
That night, Kim made a trap for the Tooth Fairy. She tied some dental floss around her tooth. She tied a small bell to the other end of the dental floss. Then she put the tooth under her pillow.	118 131 144 145
"When the Tooth Fairy tries to take my tooth, the bell will wake me up," she told Mother. "I will catch her in my butterfly net."	157 170 171
After trying to stay awake for an hour, Kim finally fell asleep. Later, the sound of a ringing bell woke her up. Kim jumped out of bed and scooped up her pillow in the butterfly net.	182 194 206 207
Kim didn't see the Tooth Fairy in the net. She only saw a note. The note said, "Better luck next time! Love, the Tooth Fairy."	220 231 232

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Maddie wanted to learn to ice skate. She went to the skating rink wearing her coat, mittens, and hat. She couldn't wait to skate fast and spin in the air.	11 21 30
Maddie tied her new skates and marched out to the ice-skating rink. She took one step on the ice and slipped! She tumbled onto the cold ice and hit her knees and hands. She didn't know that the ice would be so slippery!	41 53 65 74
Learning to skate was harder than she thought. It was cold, and her feet hurt from the tight skates. Maddie wanted to give up and go home.	84 96 101
Her teacher took her hand. "It takes a lot of practice to skate well. Don't give up," said her teacher.	113 121
Week after week, Maddie went to skating lessons. Sometimes younger children skated past her quickly. That made her work even harder. "If that little kid can skate well, I can too," she said to herself.	129 137 150 156
The day came when Maddie could skate well. She could glide across the ice. She could stop without falling. Skating was fun!	166 176 178
One day Maddie saw something that made her laugh. Her mother stepped onto the ice with new skates. She took one step and slipped!	188 199 202
"If you can skate well, I can too," said Mother. "It will take a lot of practice."	216 219
"Don't give up, Mom!" said Maddie.	225

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"Don't give up, Mom!" said Maddie.

My dad can fix anything. Once my little sister and I were	12
playing hide and seek in the house. I hid in the broom closet.	25
When my sister tried to find me, she opened the door too fast	38
and it fell off the closet. Mom said we should be more careful.	51
Dad got out his tools and repaired the closet.	60
Another time, my dog Blue and I were playing catch with	71
the football. I threw the ball too close to the window. The ball	84
hit the window and broke it into about a hundred pieces. Mom	96
said to stay away from the broken glass. Dad got out his tools	109
and put in a new window.	115
Later, I was playing with my new dump truck. I wanted to	127
drive fast down the hall. My truck smashed into the wall and	139
lost a tire. Mom said I should play more carefully. Dad got out	152
his tools and fixed my truck.	158
Today, my little sister began to cry. She was eating a red	170
popsicle and it broke.	174
"Fix my popsicle, Daddy!" she said.	180
"Dad can't fix a popsicle," I said.	187
"I'll bet he can," said Mom.	193
Dad put the pieces together and ran the popsicle under	203
cold water. He put it back in the freezer. In ten minutes, Dad	216
took the popsicle out. It was as good as new!	226
"Dad, you really can fix anything!" my sister said.	235

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My little sister Emma ran to me. "Oh! Oh! I squished it!"	12
she said. The tiny toad in her hand looked like a rock. It had	26
shiny black eyes that looked like blackberries from our berry	36
patch. I scooped the toad out of Emma's hand and hurried to	48
Mother.	49
"She squished the toad," I said. "We need to bury it." But	61
Mother was busy hanging clothes on the line to dry.	71
"We will bury the toad after I finish hanging these clothes."	82
Mother said.	84
I waited for Mother for a long time. I held the toad in my left	99
hand. I held Mother's leg with my right hand. Tears ran down	111
my cheeks. Mother hung our shirts, our socks, and our pants.	122
Finally she was done.	126
Mother picked up Emma and then took my hand from her	137
leg. We walked to our flower garden where the roses and lilies	149
grow. I picked a yellow lily to put next to the toad while Mother	163
scooped up dirt.	166
"Put him in here," she said.	172
When I opened my fingers, the toad jumped out! He	182
crawled into the long, green grass. I was so happy I jumped as	195
high as the clothesline. Mother's eyes grew wide. Emma was	205
happy too.	207
We all followed behind the toad, and soon he was gone.	218
He hopped into the blackberry bushes near the woods. I	228
smiled. I was glad that Mother had so much laundry to do that	241
day.	242

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My teacher says it takes many years to become a great artist. "I am a great artist already," I tell her.	11 21
I paint with a splash of bright red. I add a drip of yellow, and it becomes orange! I smear blue finger paint. Next I add a smudge of yellow, and it becomes green!	35 48 55
I can also draw well. I tell my cat to sit still so I can sketch him. Cats can sit for long amounts of time. Dogs can't sit as long. The last time I sketched a picture of my dog, I couldn't finish it. When I began to draw his legs, he ran and hid under the couch.	71 84 97 111 113
My pictures of cats are great. I draw cats in trees. I draw cats on couches. My teacher says it's okay if the cats in my drawings are not perfect. She says it's fine if their heads are too big for their bodies or if I forget to draw their ears.	126 139 151 164
I am also good with clay. It is fun to feel the cold, sticky clay between my fingers. I can roll the clay into long snakes. I can form the clay into dishes. I can make pots, cups, and plates. It's not really very difficult.	178 191 203 209
Other people have to work and study to become great artists. I am a great artist already!	219 226

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One spring day, Mark went for a walk in the woods. He	12
walked among big trees and climbed steep hills. As he walked,	23
Mark tipped his head to the side so he could listen for birds.	36
Many beautiful bluebirds build nests in the woods early in	46
the spring. The pretty bluebirds sing from their nests all	56
summer long.	58
Mark stopped by a fence post and listened. He didn't hear	69
any bluebirds, so he kept on walking. He stopped near a	80
stump and looked up at the trees. He didn't see any bluebirds,	92
so he kept on looking.	97
Mark walked and walked. Soon he got sleepy. He laid	107
down in the green grass and took a nap. When Mark woke up,	120
the forest was no longer silent. Bluebirds were singing high in	131
the treetops.	133
"There you are," Mark said as he stood up. "I was looking	145
for you guys. Where were you all winter?"	153
"Down in the warm air," the bluebirds sang to Mark as they	165
flew from branch to branch. "Where were you?"	173
"I was at home, sitting in front of the fire. It gets cold here	187
during the winter," Mark said.	192
"We know," the bluebirds chirped together. "We brought	200
something back from our trip for you." A little bluebird flew	211
down and landed on Mark's shoulder. The bird had a seashell	222
in its beak.	225
"Thank you my friends," said Mark. "I'm glad you are back	236
in the woods."	239

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Mark stopped by a fence post and listened. He didn't hear any bluebirds, so he kept on walking. He stopped near a stump and looked up at the trees. He didn't see any bluebirds, so he kept on looking.

Mark walked and walked. Soon he got sleepy. He laid down in the green grass and took a nap. When Mark woke up, the forest was no longer silent. Bluebirds were singing high in the treetops.

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"Down in the warm air," the bluebirds sang to Mark as they flew from branch to branch. "Where were you?"

"I was at home, sitting in front of the fire. It gets cold here during the winter," Mark said.

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One spring day, Ken came home and heard the woman	10
across the street yelling. Ken ran over to see what was wrong.	22
She had found a newborn puppy on her grass. It was wet and	35
crying, and there was no mother dog around.	43
"May I take care of this puppy?" Ken asked.	52
"Sure," replied the neighbor.	56
Ken took the puppy back to his house. He put the puppy in	69
a box, but the puppy still cried. Next he got a blanket and put it	84
in the dryer. When the blanket was warm, he wrapped the	95
puppy in it, but the puppy still cried. Ken's dad put his finger in	109
the newborn's mouth. It sucked his finger strongly.	117
"This puppy wants to eat," Ken's dad said.	125
Ken's mom went to the store. She bought a tiny bottle and	137
some milk made for little puppies. When she got home, the	148
family heated the milk for the puppy.	155
At first the little puppy did not drink. Then it stopped crying	167
and started to suck from the bottle. They wanted the puppy to	179
stay warm, so Ken's dad found a heating pad. He put the pad	192
in the blanket which was already wrapped around the puppy.	202
The puppy seemed much happier and went to sleep.	211
Later Ken's mom called the vet. The vet said they should	222
bring the puppy in for a visit. At the vet's office, Ken told the	236
vet what he had done for the puppy. The vet told them they	249
saved the puppy's life.	253
"I will search for a good home for this cute little dog," Ken	266
said. Just then the dog licked Ken's hand. "I think the puppy	278
says thanks," said Ken.	282

One spring day, Ken came home and heard the woman across the street yelling. Ken ran over to see what was wrong. She had found a newborn puppy on her grass. It was wet and crying, and there was no mother dog around.

"May I take care of this puppy?" Ken asked.

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Ken took the puppy back to his house. He put the puppy in a box, but the puppy still cried. Next he got a blanket and put it in the dryer. When the blanket was warm, he wrapped the puppy in it, but the puppy still cried. Ken's dad put his finger in the newborn's mouth. It sucked his finger strongly.

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Ken's mom went to the store. She bought a tiny bottle and some milk made for little puppies. When she got home, the family heated the milk for the puppy.

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Pat loved to make cookies. She and her grandma made the best cookies.	10 13
Pat helped measure the flour and scoop the sugar.	22
Grandma cracked the eggs. Pat mixed it all together. When it got too thick, Grandma stirred. Pat poured in the chocolate chips while Grandma kept stirring.	33 43 48
Pat got two spoons. She and Grandma scooped out the dough. Then they dropped the dough onto cookie sheets.	58 67
Pat carried the cookie sheets to Grandma. Grandma put them in the oven. Pat set the timer.	76 84
They scooped more dough while they waited. They had lots of cookie sheets to fill.	93 99
Sometimes Pat took a break. She liked to peek through the oven window and watch the cookies bake.	110 117
The timer went off. Grandma removed the cookie sheets from the oven. Pat put each cookie on the cooling rack. Pat and Grandma each tried a cookie. The warm, gooey cookies tasted delicious!	126 138 148 150
Grandma poured glasses of milk. Pat took three cookies to Grandpa, who was in the other room. He ate all three. He asked for more, and Pat went to get them. Grandpa thanked Pat.	160 172 183 184
After Pat and Grandma finished baking cookies, they had to clean up. They had made a mess! Pat took the bowl to the sink. Grandma washed the dishes and Pat dried them. Pat helped put them away. Then they put the cookies in the cookie jar.	193 207 217 229 230

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Can animals really talk to each other? Let's listen to the animals at the Bunker Hill Farm to hear what they might say to each other.	11 24 26
"Where did I put my bone?" asks Bow-Wow the dog.	37
"I love to take my master for a walk," says Ruff the dog. "I like to make him run."	51 56
Moo-Moo the cow says, "My last batch of milk was very fine. It'll make great cheese or cream."	68 75
"My milk is made into ice cream," says Spotty the cow. "I wish I could eat some. I bet it tastes sweet. I get tired of just eating grass."	87 102 104
"I hope all the kids finish their milk," says Jersey the cow. "I want them to grow strong."	117 122
What do the fish say as they swim in Lake Rainbow?	133
"This water is too cold," says Flipper the fish. "I want to live in Mexico. It's warm there."	146 151
"Here comes a boat," says Bass the fish. "I hope they have better worms for bait today. Yesterday's worms were really slimy."	163 172 173
Henry the horse gallops past Patty the pony. "Look at my new saddle," he brags. "It has buttons of real gold. It's smooth as ice."	184 196 198
"You're looking good," replies Patty. "Trot back over here and we'll have a snack. We'll share oats and hay."	207 217
Wouldn't it be great if we really could talk to animals? Just think about the things we would learn from each other!	229 239

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"Here comes a boat," says Bass the fish. "I hope they have better worms for bait today. Yesterday's worms were really slimy."

Henry the horse gallops past Patty the pony. "Look at my new saddle," he brags. "It has buttons of real gold. It's smooth as ice."

"You're looking good," replies Patty. "Trot back over here and we'll have a snack. We'll share oats and hay."

Wouldn't it be great if we really could talk to animals? Just think about the things we would learn from each other!

One day Miss Smith asked the kids in her class what jobs they'd like to have when they grow up.	12 20
"I want to be a football player," Joe said. "I like to throw and catch footballs. It would be so cool to run across the goal line."	33 46 47
"I'd like to be a teacher," said Robin. "I want to help boys and girls. I like to write on the chalkboard. Teaching about numbers and words would be fun."	60 71 77
"I would like to be an actor," said Danny. "I'd get to star in plays on a stage. I'd get to act out different parts. I could be a person or an animal. I might get to sing and dance. Being an actor would be grand."	91 106 119 123
"I want to be a construction worker," Becky said. "I want to lay tar on new roads. I want to help build bridges across water. I want to hold the sign that tells cars to stop."	135 148 159
"Wow," said Josh. "I want to be a construction worker too! Only I want to build houses. I like using hammers and nails. Sawing wood and putting it together would be great."	170 182 191
"I'd like to be a doctor," said Ruth. "I like the white coats doctors wear. Looking at x-rays seems interesting. I think I'd like giving check-ups. I would like to help sick people feel better, but I wouldn't like to give shots."	204 214 226 234
"Those all sound like exciting jobs," said Miss Smith.	243
"Remember that going to school every day will help you learn how to do any job."	254 259

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The lion was the king of all the animals. He was strong and	13
brave. He had golden fur and razor sharp claws. He could run	25
faster than the wind. He could jump high into the branches of a	38
tree. But he was also very rude.	45
"I am the king of the jungle," he would say. "That means	57
you have to listen to me. You have to follow my commands.	69
Go and hunt some dinner for me," he said. "I am very hungry."	82
Some of the animals in the jungle were getting sick of his	94
rude mouth.	96
"I don't have to listen to him," hissed the snake. "That lion	108
doesn't scare me."	111
"I agree," said the turtle. "Yesterday I was walking in the	122
woods when I met up with him. He laughed at my slow walk.	135
He called me stupid. Then he told me to go and hunt some	148
dinner for him. That lion is lazy and rude!"	157
The next day the turtle was sitting on a rock. He was nice	170
and warm with the sun on his back. The lion snuck up behind	183
him. He was hungry. He decided to eat the turtle.	193
The lion jumped on the turtle. The turtle slipped into his	204
shell. Nothing the lion did made the turtle come out.	214
"I'm going to have turtle stew for dinner," said the lion.	225
Just then the turtle stuck his head out and bit the lion's nose.	238
The lion never bothered the turtle again.	245

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A mother held her baby girl in her arms. "You are a new baby today," she said. "You will grow up fast, but today you are my baby." The baby smiled. The mother sang a song. Then the baby fell asleep wrapped in a blanket.	13 25 36 45
The baby girl grew bigger. The baby crawled around on the floor. She played with the kitchen bowls. She cried when she wanted her bottle. "You are one year old today," the mother said. "You are growing so fast, but you are still my baby."	56 67 78 90
The little baby girl toddled through the house. "You are a terrible two!" her mother said. The little girl liked to walk everywhere. She looked in the bathroom. She played in the bedroom. She even wanted to walk outside the house. But the mother said, "A baby should play inside the house and stay clean on her second birthday."	101 112 122 133 144 149
The mother sat in a chair. She sat and listened to all the words her three-year-old girl could say. The little girl liked to talk. Her words were silly. Her mother said, "Can you say Happy Birthday?"	162 175 186 188
The little girl is not so little anymore. Today is her first day of school. She has new school clothes. She has a bag for her books. Her mother says, "Have a good day at school, baby."	201 214 225
"I am not a baby anymore. I am five years old," says the little girl.	238 240
"You are five years old, but you will always be my little baby girl," says the mother.	253 257

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"You are five years old, but you will always be my little baby girl," says the mother.

This tale is about a boy named Kevin. Kevin is very big for a first grade boy. He is taller than all the other boys in his class. Kevin has a lot of fun, but because he's so big, he also runs into trouble.	13 27 41 44
Since Kevin is big, his teacher finds him a big chair. His chair is big enough, but his desk is still too small. The desk rests on his knees and wobbles back and forth. Poor Kevin.	56 69 80
Kevin likes to run and play. He plays ball almost every day. Kevin kicks the ball too hard, and the ball goes POP! The ball is flat now. Kevin likes to draw. He sharpens a crayon, and the crayon goes SNAP! The crayon is broken now. Kevin likes to open doors for people. He swings the door open too fast, and the door goes CRASH! The door is broken now. Poor Kevin.	92 105 118 129 141 152
Kevin is very tall. When he plays outside, he must play carefully on the small playground equipment. Sometimes he bumps his head. Ouch! Before lunch, Kevin washes his hands in the bathroom. He has to bend down really far to reach the soap and the towels. Kevin wishes he could be more like the other kids.	163 171 181 194 206 208
The boys and girls in Kevin's class like Kevin. They like him because he is so big. Kevin can jump high and dunk a basketball. He can reach high and get things on tall shelves. Kevin's friends think he's lucky. Kevin doesn't always agree with them, but he does think some things about being tall aren't so bad.	219 232 243 252 264 266

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Today is the animal fair. All the animals will be there. The	12
birds will be singing. The bees will be humming. The pigs will	24
be oinking. The horses will be running. It is the animals'	35
favorite time of the year.	40
The horses enjoy the races. The pigs love to eat the corn	52
on the cob and cotton candy. The bees enter their honey to	64
see who will win first prize. The birds have a singing contest.	76
Sam the cow has an idea. "Why don't we try something	87
different this year?"	90
"That is a very good idea," says Rick. Rick is a pig. He	103
loves to taste the food. "Let's try something different this year."	114
The animals all agree to do something new. The bees	124
enter the singing contest. The birds try to eat the pigs' food.	136
The pigs run the horse races. And the horses try to make	148
honey.	149
Oh, no! What a mess! The bees don't sing well. They just	161
buzz and buzz. The birds can't eat the corn or the cotton	173
candy. "I just want some seeds," says Roger Robin. The pigs	184
are very tired. "I like to eat. I do not like to run," says Rick.	199
The horses are very mad. "We cannot make honey. Let the	210
bees do it."	213
So the animals return to the same events they do every	224
year. This animal fair is the best ever!	232

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Tom and his family lived in a busy city. There was always something to see and hear. Sometimes Tom wanted a secret place of his own. He didn't have a place that was just for him.	12 22 36
Tom made a plan. He climbed up high inside the garage. He came to a little peak in the roof where his dad stored bikes and tools. Here was the place for Tom!	47 61 69
It was quiet. He could look out a little window to see the city. He brought his favorite comic books, his monster truck, and a bag of chips to his secret place. Tom decided to call his secret place "Study." If anyone asked where he was going, he would tell the truth. He would say he was going to "Study."	82 92 106 117 129
His big sister left him alone when he said he was going to "Study." Tom spent everyday after school at the "Study." His sister thought he was becoming a good student. Mother knew better though.	142 152 162 164
One day he climbed up to "Study." He found Mother sitting there on the floor.	175 179
"Mother, how did you know I come up here?" asked Tom.	190
"I like this place," said Mother. "Can I call this place 'Clean'? When I want some time alone I will tell everyone I'm going to 'Clean!'"	201 213 216

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"Where is your fort, anyway? We've been walking forever.	9
Are you sure we're not lost?" asked Andy.	17
"We're not lost," replied Mark. "We just left my house five minutes ago!"	28
"I can't see your house from here. We're deep in the forest. I don't understand how you know where we're going,"	42
complained Andy.	51
"I've lived here all my life. I've walked in these woods almost every day. My house is just back down the path. Don't worry, Andy. We're almost there," explained Mark.	53
The path went deep into the woods and seemed well worn.	64
Mark did know the way, and soon the boys were standing at the foot of an enormous oak tree.	76
"Wow!" exclaimed Andy. "I didn't know the tree house was up so high! What if we fall down?"	83
"The ladder is very sturdy," said Mark. "My dad climbs it, and it holds him. We're only half his size, so we won't fall. It's really neat up there. Come on and follow me up the ladder."	94
Mark climbed the ladder easily and was soon at the top.	106
He turned around to see Andy slowly climbing up behind him.	113
Andy stopped to look down, closed his eyes, and started to climb again. Finally, Andy reached the top.	123
Andy stood up and looked around the tree house.	131
"Cool!" Andy exclaimed. "There's lots of room up here! We have plenty of space to read our comic books!" He didn't know why he was so nervous to visit the fort in the first place.	142
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