

Judy was getting a new kitten. Her dad helped her get everything ready. First, they bought a little bed and put in a soft blanket. Next, they made sure they had kitten food and water. When everything was ready, Judy and her dad drove to the pet store to pick out a kitten. Judy chose a brown and white kitten and named her Ruby.

Monica and Tony wanted to make cookies. They gathered all the ingredients and mixed them together. They asked their mom to help them put the cookies in the oven and set the timer for ten minutes. When the timer beeped, the cookies were done. Mom took the cookies out of the oven. Monica and Tony waited for them to cool down. Then they poured themselves two glasses of milk and ate their delicious cookies.

Leo's class was putting on a play. They had been practicing for weeks. Leo practiced a lot and was sure he knew his lines very well. Finally, the night of the play arrived. Then the moment came for him to walk out on stage. He turned to the crowd to say his lines, but something terrible happened! He forgot what he was supposed to say. He heard someone whispering and realized that it was his teacher, Miss Fox. "Don't worry, Leo," he heard her whisper, "I know you can do it." Then Leo remembered what he was supposed to say. He said his lines and everyone clapped. Leo was proud of himself. He knew he could do it.

Almost everyone has forgotten something important. People sometimes forget to bring their homework to school. They even forget names of people or places. One trick to remember something important is to tie a string around your finger. Or, you could put a rubber band around your wrist. Make sure it is not too tight! Then, the next time you look down at your hand, you will think, "Oh yeah, tonight it is my turn to feed the dog!"

Carla's little brother pulled a piece of bubble gum out of his mouth and stuck it in her hair. Yuck! Carla pulled, but she didn't want to rip her hair. Mom got some peanut butter from the kitchen, and used a spoon to smear peanut butter onto the gum. "The peanut butter will make the gum less sticky, and then we can get it out," said Mom. She was right! The gum came out, and Paula used shampoo to get her hair clean again.

Derek finished his math homework, then worked on his science project, and saved his reading assignment for last. When he was finished reading, he closed the book, turned off the lamp on his desk, and went to bed.

To surprise her mother on her birthday, Samantha got up early and made coffee. First, she filled the pot with water. Then she cleaned and replaced the filter. Next, she got fresh coffee, measured just the right amount, and poured it into the filter. Finally, she pressed the "on" button and within seconds, the aroma of fresh-brewed coffee filled the house.

Willow Creek is very different from New York City. There are no tall skyscrapers in Willow Creek. All you can see are fields and sky. Instead of taxicab horns and fire truck sirens, it is so quiet at night that you can hear the crickets chirping.

Their room was littered with muddy shoes and unwashed clothes. Piles of newspapers were stacked in the corner and dirty dishes were hidden under the bed. The dusty windows did not let in much light.

The music was blasting so loud, Marco thought his ears would burst. The stage was filled with bright blue laser beams and a shower of yellow and green paper streamers. All around him, the crowd was singing and dancing wildly.

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, you should water the seeds. Make sure to keep them in a window where there is a lot of sunlight, but if it is cold outside, keep the pot at least two feet away from the window. If you follow these directions, the seeds will take root in the soil, and in two weeks you will see sprouts!

Every spring, shortly after the tulips bloom, farmers in Holland go through the tulip fields and cut the blooms off the tulips. This seems strange, because it leaves a field full of green stems. However, it makes the colorful tulip blooms grow back even bigger and stronger later that spring.

Joey lost his science book. He knew he would be in big trouble if he was unable to study for the final. What should he do? He thought for a few worried moments, and then decided to retrace his steps. He remembered putting the book in his backpack that morning. He had taken it out at school when his friend Kim asked to look something up. Now he remembered—Kim still had his book!

The school bus dropped Thomas off at his house. Thomas noticed his mom's car was not in the driveway. He fished in his pocket for his key and discovered a hole in his pocket. His key had fallen out! It was beginning to get dark and cold. Shivering, Thomas remembered that the neighbor, Mrs. Wilkins, had a key. He smiled as he turned toward her house.

The first people known to enjoy chocolate were the Aztec Indians in Mexico. Aztec people, especially the kings, enjoyed a drink they called "chocolatl," the original hot chocolate. After visiting Mexico in 1519, the Spanish explorer Hernando Cortez brought chocolate back to Spain for the Spanish royal families to enjoy. Hundreds of years later, chocolate was made and sold in stores in Europe. Today the sweet, rich treat is enjoyed around the world.

Living in the country is very different than living in a city. First of all, a city dweller needs to be careful of traffic and other people. In the country, there are fewer cars and people. In the city, many people can walk to the movies, stores, and other activities. In the country, people must

drive to get to the movies and stores, but can do different activities near home. Both the country and the city are interesting places to live.

The farm had a house, a barn, a garage, and a small tool shed. All the buildings were white, but the paint was starting to chip off and show the brown wood underneath. The large garden on the south side of the barn was bursting with tomatoes, corn, onions, and other vegetables. On hot days, the onions could be smelled everywhere on the farm.

In our state, dams have been built on many rivers. These dams are used to produce the electricity we need, but they also create problems for fish and other wildlife near the rivers. Therefore, we should not build any more dams. Instead, we should use solar energy, or energy from the sun, to produce electricity. This will help us protect our wildlife and enjoy the natural beauty around us.