

(1) Emily, the Rat Who Could Not Read

Once upon a time, in a small and beautiful town, there lived a rat named Emily. Every morning, she would climb up to her favorite treehouse, bring a cup of coffee, put on her glasses, and try to read the newspaper. However, the words on the paper were always a blur to her, and she couldn't understand what they meant.

One day, Emily met Tom the squirrel in the bakery and asked, "Tom, can you read?" Tom replied with a smile, "Of course! I love to read fiction books every day." Emily then said, "I can't read. My glasses are old and dirty." Tom said to Emily, "Go to school and learn how to read."

Emily continued her walk and saw Julie the rabbit in front of the library. She asked Julie, "Can you read, Julie?" "Of course! I have my bag full of books. I love to read stories about our ancestors," replied Julie. Emily once again explained, "I can't read because my glasses are dirty." Julie said to her, "Emily, go to school to learn how to read."

Emily walked to the park and saw Terry the dog. She asked him, "Have you read the newspaper today? Isn't the earthquake terrible?" Terry replied, "Yes, it is awful. Did you read the newspaper by yourself?" Emily then answered, "No, my glasses are dirty, and I can't read through them." Terry replied, "Go to school, Emily. That's where you learn how to read."

"Why is it that everyone keeps telling me to go to school? I can read. I just need to fix my glasses," Emily wondered. The next day, she went to school and met Mrs. Jenkins, the teacher. Emily told her about the trouble with her glasses being dirty and how she couldn't read.

Mrs. Jenkins was very kind and patient. She showed Emily how to read her alphabet, some simple words, and then some sentences. Emily was a good student and learned fast.

A few weeks later, Emily saw Rose the hen walking past the post office. She ran to her and said, "Hey, Rose, can you read?" Rose replied, "Of course. I read and write every day." Emily was very happy and proudly said, "Me too! I'm learning at school." Rose asked, "What happened to your glasses? Don't you need them when reading?" Emily replied with a big smile, "I can read now, and I don't need my glasses fixed. Because I go to school, I learned how to read."

Emily invited all her friends to her treehouse for afternoon tea. She read a story from her favorite book and said to them, "Thank you all for telling me to go to school. Now, I can read fiction books, books about everything, newspapers, and even write my own stories."

(2) My dog goes to Mars

During the night, many young children and their pets look up into the beautiful night sky and dream. I had a dog, and his name was Chester. One night, he told me about his adventure to Mars.

Like every dog, he was lying on his bed, licking his favorite bone. Then, he saw something shoot across the sky.

“What was it?” he wondered.

He decided to check it out. He ran with his ears flapping and his belly jiggling up and down. He realized the thing that flew across the sky was a unicorn!

The unicorn took Chester around the world, where he saw Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse. He told me it was the best day ever. The unicorn still had more plans and decided to take my dog into space.

Luckily, Chester had brought a space suit. What a smart dog. He saw the moon, the beautiful rings of Saturn and his favourite big, red planet, Mars.

He politely asked the unicorn if it was possible to take him to his favorite planet. He gazed at Mars’ miraculous mountains and landscapes. The unicorn had dropped him next to the biggest volcano in the solar system: Mount Olympus. It was massive.

“This day could not get better,” my dog told me.

However, Chester knew it was time to go back home as he was once taught by a very wise man that happiness comes from your family. In his case, happiness was me.