Jelly

The Cat Who Would Not Nap

LITTLE READERS



Mia has a cat.

His name is Marmalade.

He loves to play.



Marmalade rolls a ball
across the living room.
Mia rolls it back.



Mom looks at the clock.

"It is nap time," she says.

"Our cat may be tired."



But Marmalade jumps
after the ball again.
He is not ready to nap.



Mia brings his soft bed.

“Here you go,” she says.

“You can rest here.”



Marmalade looks at the bed.

He sniffs the blanket.

Then he looks away.



He walks past the bed
and finds a toy mouse.
Mia watches him go.



“Do you not like your bed?”

Mia asks her cat.

Marmalade does not answer.



The little toy mouse
slides across the floor.
Marmalade runs after it.



He leaps by the sofa
and catches the mouse.
What a fast cat!



Mia laughs at his jump.
"You still want to play!"
she says to him.



Mom smiles at Mia.
"He is having fun,"
she says softly.



"Why will he not nap?"

Mia asks her mom.

"His bed is so soft."



Mom listens to the room.

Music is playing loudly.

Toys are all around.




"Maybe he needs
a quiet place to rest,"
Mom says.

Mia looks at Marmalade.

She has an idea.

“I can help!” she says.



Mia picks up the toys.

She puts the ball away.

She puts the mouse away.



Next, she turns off
the loud music.
The room is quiet now.



Mom makes the light softer.

Mia looks around.

The room feels calm.



Even the little puppy
rests on his mat.
He is quiet, too.



Mia takes the cat bed
to a quiet window.
Warm light comes in.



She puts the soft blanket
inside the little bed.
“There,” she whispers.



Marmalade sees the bed.
He stops playing and looks.
His ears point up.



Mia takes a step back.

She lets him choose.

Mom watches with her.



Marmalade walks slowly
toward the soft bed.
Mia waits quietly.



He sniffs the blanket.
Then he sniffs the bed.
It smells nice.



He steps inside the bed
and turns around once.
Then he turns again.



Mia wants to cheer.

But she stays quiet.

She does not want to stir him.



Marmalade lies down.

His paws curl under him.

Mia smiles.



Then a bird sings
just outside the window.
Marmalade lifts his head.



He watches the bird.

Mia waits and waits.

She does not call him.



The bird flies away.

The room is quiet again.

Marmalade looks sleepy.



He settles in his bed.

His blanket is soft.

The window is warm.



His eyes slowly close.
His tail rests by his paws.
At last, he naps.



Mia smiles at Mom.
"He found his quiet place,"
she whispers.



Mom gives Mia a nod.
"You helped him feel calm,"
she says.



Mia finds a book.
She sits near the window
and reads quietly.



The puppy rests, too.

The house is still.

Only the pages make a sound.



Marmalade sleeps
in his cozy little bed.
Mia turns another page.



Soon the cat will wake.
Then Mia and Marmalade
can play again.



What does Marmalade
like to do?
What does he play with?



What does Mia bring
for her cat?
Does he nap at first?



What sounds and things
are in the room?
Look at the pictures.



What does Mom think
the cat needs?
How can Mia help?



Where does Mia put
the cat bed?
Why is it a good spot?



What does Marmalade do
before he lies down?
Tell a friend.



What wakes his attention

at the window?

What does Mia do?



How does the story end?
What could they do
after the cat wakes?



The End

