Jelly

The Rainy Picnic Plan

LITTLE READERS



BEFORE YOU READ

Look and Wonder

1. What do you see at the window?
2. What did the friends bring?
3. Where could they have a picnic?
4. Share a plan with a partner.



On Friday, Ben packed a picnic bag.

Mina brought a folded red blanket.

Max carried a small blue ball.

The class planned to eat in the park.



Dark clouds gathered during morning work.
Rain tapped against the classroom window.
Mina went over to look outside.
Soon the path was full of puddles.



Their teacher, Ms. Lee, closed the door.

"The park will be too wet today."

Max looked down at his blue ball.

Ben set his bag by the wall.



Mina unfolded one corner of her blanket.

"We could have a picnic in here."

Ben looked around at the desks.

"Where could we put our food?"



Ms. Lee pointed to the back wall.
"We can move the desks to one side."
The class put the chairs away first.
The middle of the room opened up.



Mina spread the blanket on the rug.

Ben put the picnic bag beside it.

Max held the ball under one arm.

"Can we still play a game?"



A girl named Eva sat near the window.
She had brought a book about clouds.
"I hoped to sit and read," she said.
"The park had a quiet place."



Max bounced his ball once.
The sound rang across the room.
Eva shut her book with a snap.
Max caught the ball with both hands.



"I waited all week to play," he said.

Eva looked out at the rain.

"I waited all week to read outside."

Ben heard how both of them felt.



Mina looked at the one big rug.

"Can we make two picnic spots?"

She pointed to the corner by the window.

Eva carried her book over to look.



Ben walked to the other side.
Two tall chairs stood against the wall.
He asked Max to roll the ball gently.
The ball bumped a chair and came back.



"That is too close to the chairs."

Max carried his ball back to Ben.

"What if we move all the chairs?"

Ben looked at the narrow walking path.



"We still need a clear way out."

Ms. Lee pointed to the classroom door.

"We can move our games away from it."

Mina checked that the door could open.



Ben held up a piece of paper.
He drew the shape of the room.
Mina drew a door on one edge.
Max marked the place by the chairs.



Eva pointed to the window corner.
"I can read there if it stays quiet."
Max looked at the corner on the map.
"It is still close to our game."



Mina asked Max to roll the ball again.
Eva sat at the far end of the rug.
She could hear every little bump.
The room was smaller than the park.



Ben looked at the wet window.

"Maybe our game could use something softer."

Mina lifted a clean cloth napkin.

She folded it into a small square.



Max set his ball inside his bag.
He slid the cloth square across the rug.
It stopped just before Ben's shoes.
Eva could still hear the rain.



"What would we aim at?" asked Max.

Ben placed a flat paper ring on the rug.

Max slid the square toward its center.

The cloth stopped a hand away.



Eva turned a page by the window.
She heard a soft sound from the rug.
"I can read with that sound," she said.
Max asked if she wanted to try later.



Stop and Think

WHAT HAVE YOU READ SO FAR?

1. Why could the class not go to the park?
2. What did Max want to do?
3. What did Eva want to do?
4. How did Max change the game?



Make a Prediction

USE THE CLUES

1. Where could the two spots go?
2. What should stay clear in the room?
3. How could Eva try the game?
4. What could everyone do together?



Before lunch, they tried both spots.
Mina carried two cushions to the window.
Ben put the ring at the far end.
They left a wide path between the spots.



Ms. Lee walked from door to window.
She did not have to step over anything.
"Now show me what a turn looks like."
Max slid the cloth while Ben waited.



It stopped halfway to the ring.
Ben fetched it when Max was done.
Then Max stepped back to let Ben try.
Nobody needed to run across the rug.



Eva read for a while on a cushion.
She found a picture of a gray cloud.
She held the page toward Mina.
"It looks like the cloud we saw."



Mina looked from the book to the window.
The rain had slowed to little drops.
"I can see the far tree again."
Eva saved the page with a bookmark.



At lunchtime, they put the game away.
Mina spread the blanket flat again.
Eva brought her cushion over to join them.
Ben opened his picnic bag.



There were apple slices and sandwiches.

Max passed a napkin to each friend.

Ben could hear soft rain on the glass.

Eva told them about her cloud book.



After eating, they folded the blanket.
Ben wiped the rug where crumbs had fallen.
Mina moved the cushions back by the window.
Max took out the cloth square.



This time Eva walked over to the ring.

"Could I take one turn?" she asked.

Max showed her where to sit.

Eva slid the square with one hand.



The square stopped inside the ring.

Eva opened her eyes wide.

Max tapped his fingers softly to clap.

Mina smiled from the window corner.



Later, Max sat beside Eva.

"Can I see the cloud picture?"

Eva opened the book at the bookmark.

She turned it so they could both see.



Ben and Mina played one more round.
They waited while each person took a turn.
At the window, Max and Eva read.
The door and walking path stayed clear.



When the bell rang, Ms. Lee joined them.

"Did you get the picnic you wanted?"

Max thought about the ball in his bag.

"I found a game I could play here."



Eva held up her cloud book.

"I found a place where I could read."

Mina held up the folded blanket.

"We all ate together in the middle."



Ben looked down at their map.
It showed two spots and one wide path.
"Next time, we can start with this."
Mina slipped it inside a folder.



By the time school ended, the rain stopped.
A thin patch of blue showed over the trees.
Max took the ball out of his bag.
Eva put her book under her arm.



They walked past the park on the way home.
Water still covered part of the grass.
Ben saw an empty bench by the path.
"Maybe next Friday," he said.



On Monday, Max brought back the cloth.
He showed a friend how to slide it.
Eva found another book for the quiet spot.
Mina checked the map before they began.



The class made a little sign for each spot.

One showed a book on a cushion.

The other showed a square inside a ring.

Ben put the signs beside the right places.



The next Friday, the sky was clear.
They took the red blanket to the park.
Max brought his ball and Eva brought a book.
Everyone knew what they wanted to do.



Talk About the Story

LOOK BACK AT THE WHOLE STORY

1. Why did the ball cause a problem?
2. How did the friends test their plan?
3. How did Eva and Max help each other?
4. What did they save for next time?



Think and Discuss

CONNECT THE STORY TO YOUR LIFE

1. What helps you read in a busy room?
2. Which quiet game would you choose?
3. Where could you set up two spots?
4. How would you invite a friend to play?



Put the Pictures in Order

Look at the four pictures.

Write 1, 2, 3, and 4 in the boxes.



A ☐



B ☐



C ☐



D ☐

Point to the pictures and tell the story.

Tell the Story

USE THE FOUR PICTURES ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE

First ...

Next ...

Then ...

Finally ...



Plan an Indoor Picnic

Draw a quiet spot and a play spot.

Show how people can move between them.

Our picnic is in _____

We can play and read because _____



The End

Thank you for reading.

Make room for each other.

What would you bring to a picnic?

