Jelly

The Birthday Balloon

LITTLE READERS



"It is Lily's birthday,"
Mia says. "I want to
give her a gift."



"What would she like?"

Mom asks. Mia thinks.

"A pink balloon!"



Mia and Mom get ready
for the birthday party.
They talk about Lily.



"I hope she likes it,"
Mia says. Mom smiles.
"Let us go and see."



Mia and Mom go
to the party shop.
Balloons fill the room.



Mia sees a pink balloon.
"That one, please,"
she tells the shopkeeper.



The shopkeeper gives Mia the balloon string. Mia holds it carefully.



“Thank you!” says Mia.
She and Mom leave
the shop together.




Outside, the balloon
floats above Mia's head.
It bobs in the breeze.


They walk down the path.
Mia holds the string tight.
Mom walks beside her.


"It is a lovely day,"
Mom says. Mia smiles
up at the balloon.


They stop for a rest
under a shady tree.
The balloon bobs gently.


Soon they get up
and walk on. Lily's house
is not far away.


"There it is!" Mia says.
She can see the house
at the end of the path.


Lily comes to the door
in her purple dress.
"Hello!" she calls.


“Happy birthday, Lily!”
Mia says. They sit
together for a moment.


Mia has a surprise.
She hides the balloon
behind her back.


"What is it?" Lily asks.
Mia smiles at her.
"Can you guess?"


Lily takes another look.
The pink balloon peeks out
from behind Mia.

Lily gives Mia a hug.
"I am so glad
you came!" she says.



Mom and Mia wait
at the door with Lily.
The party is about to start.



“Come inside,” Lily says.
“There is room for
everyone to play.”



Mia shows Lily the balloon.

“This is for you,” she says.

“Happy birthday!”



"A pink balloon!" Lily says.

"It is beautiful."

They go inside together.



“Thank you, Mia!”
Lily says. The balloon
floats above them.



"You are welcome,"
Mia says. She gives
the string to Lily.



Lily holds it carefully.
Their little dog sits
nearby and watches.



“Where can we put it?”
Mia asks. Lily looks
around the room.



"We can tie it
to this chair," Lily says.
She brings a chair over.



Mia and Lily work together.
Mom watches as they
tie the string.



They pull the knot snug.
The pink balloon floats
above the little chair.



"There!" says Mia.
Lily smiles. "Now it
can stay with us."



Soon it is time
for birthday cake.
The friends sit at the table.



"Make a wish," says Mia.
Lily closes her eyes
for a moment.



Mom cuts the cake.
She gives a little piece
to each friend.



They eat their cake
and smile. The balloon
floats beside the table.



After the cake,
Mia and Lily play.
Mom watches and smiles.



Lily waves her hands.

Mia waves hers, too.

They laugh together.



"I like my balloon,"
Lily says. "Thank you
for bringing it."



"I am glad you like it,"
Mia says. "This is
a happy birthday!"



Whose birthday
is it? What gift
does Mia choose?



Where do Mia and Mom
find the pink balloon?
Who helps them?



How do Mia and Mom
get to Lily's house?
What do they carry?




What color is Lily's
birthday dress?
What does she say?


How does Lily feel
when Mia gives her
the balloon?

Where do the friends
tie the balloon?
Why do they tie it?



What do they share

at the table?

What does Lily do first?



What happens after the cake? Tell the story to a friend.



The End

