Jelly

The Fair That Almost Closed

LITTLE READERS



BEFORE YOU READ

Look and Wonder

1. What could rain change at the fair?
2. Where could the people go to stay dry?
3. What might need a new plan?



The school fair would begin that afternoon.

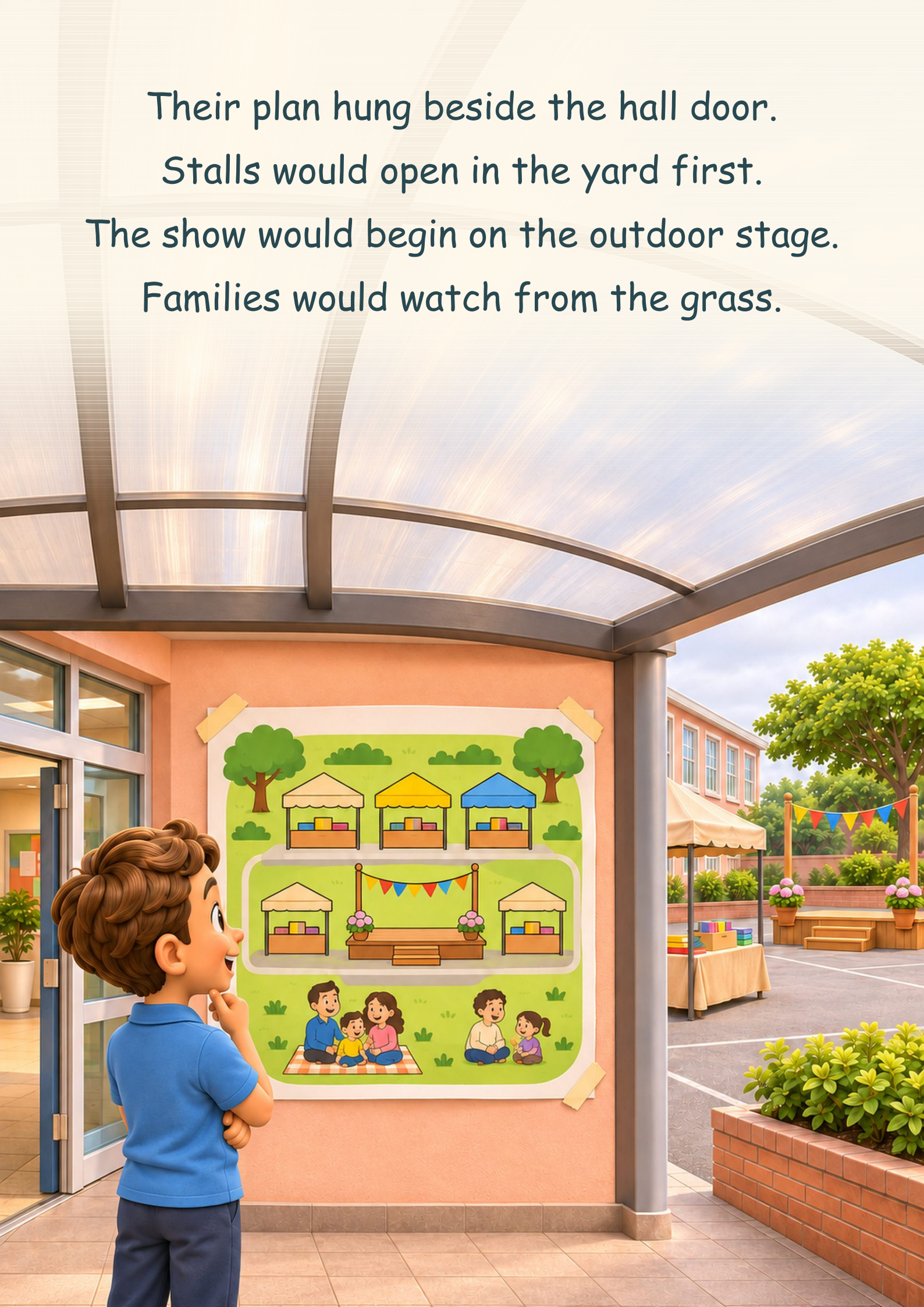
Ben helped put books on a stall.

Mina practiced a song with her group.

Max carried signs toward the yard.



Their plan hung beside the hall door.
Stalls would open in the yard first.
The show would begin on the outdoor stage.
Families would watch from the grass.



Then dark clouds covered the school.
Rain began tapping the stall covers.
A strong gust lifted one corner.
Ms. Lee called everyone under the roof.



The outdoor stage grew wet quickly.
A caretaker checked it with Ms. Lee.
It could not be used for the show.
The yard stalls needed a dry place too.



Ben stood inside beside the book boxes.

"Will the fair have to close?"

Mina held her song sheet against her chest.

Max looked at the crowded little hall.



Ms. Lee brought the timetable inside.
She put it on a low table.
"Let's see what needs space and time."
The three friends came to look.



The hall was the only free indoor room.
It was smaller than the whole yard.
Stalls and audience chairs could not all fit.
Ben looked at the wide book boxes.



"We could put stalls along every wall."
Max pointed around the empty hall.
The caretaker marked the exits first.
Those doorways had to stay clear.



Mina looked at the audience space.
People would need room to sit and walk.
Tall stalls would block the show area.
They could not simply squeeze everything in.



Ms. Lee drew the hall on paper.
She marked doors, exits, and clear paths.
The caretaker checked the drawing with her.
The children watched from around the table.



Ben pointed at the old timetable.

"The stalls and show were together outside."

Mina followed the two rows with her finger.

"Could they use this room at different times?"



Max found a blank strip of paper.
He drew three large boxes across it.
One could be for the stalls.
One could be for changing the room.



The last box could hold the show.

Ms. Lee checked the finishing time.

There was room for a shorter stall session.

They could still fit the planned songs.



"We need time to move the tables."

The caretaker pointed to the middle box.

Adults would move the heavy furniture.

Children could help pack light things away.



Ben checked the book stall with Dad.
Two small boxes could hold the books.
The rest could wait in a storeroom.
They would bring more out when needed.



Max helped count the other stalls.
Only the small, dry ones could move inside.
The throwing game would wait for another day.
Ms. Lee checked each choice with its helper.



Mina spoke to the song group.
They could sing without the big tree prop.
Their teacher marked a small standing area.
It kept everyone away from the doors.



The caretaker checked the new room plan.

Ms. Lee counted the allowed visitors.

Adults would help families enter in groups.

The school would keep clear paths throughout.



Ben drew a book picture for the first box.

Max drew hands packing in the middle one.

Mina drew music notes in the last box.

Ms. Lee added the new times beneath them.



They made a fresh notice for the entrance.

It showed where the fair had moved.

It also showed when the show would begin.

The old outdoor plan came down.



Stop and Think

WHAT HAVE YOU READ SO FAR?

1. Why could they not use the outdoor stage?
2. What are the three timetable boxes for?
3. Why do the doors need clear paths?



Make a Prediction

USE THE CLUES

1. What should happen before the songs?
2. Who should move the heavy tables?
3. Where can families wait during the change?



Helpers checked the new timetable together.

Dad repeated when the books must be packed.

The song teacher checked the start time.

Ms. Lee confirmed the changeover gap.



Families began arriving in raincoats.
An adult met them under the entrance roof.
She showed them the new indoor plan.
Wet umbrellas stayed in a safe place outside.



The hall stalls opened first.

Ben helped Dad show the small book selection.

Max pointed families toward the clear walkway.

Mina stayed with her song teacher nearby.



A family asked about the outdoor game.
Max showed them the changed activity notice.
It would happen on another day.
They chose the bookmark stall instead.



The hall filled with quiet, busy voices.
Adults watched the doors and pathways.
Ben found a picture book for a child.
Dad brought another small stack from storage.



Ms. Lee gave the packing signal.
The stall session was ending as planned.
Dad stopped bringing more books out.
Ben put the loose bookmarks in a tray.



Mina checked the middle timetable box.

It was not performance time yet.

The room needed its planned changeover.

She waited with her teacher outside the hall.



Families moved to the sheltered waiting area.

Adults guided them along the clear route.

Ben carried a light empty tray away.

Dad and the caretaker moved the tables.



The heavy stalls went into storage.
Adults set chairs in the checked places.
Ms. Lee walked along every clear aisle.
Nothing stood in front of an exit.



Max looked at the wall clock.
They were still inside the changeover time.
He put the last light sign away.
Then the caretaker checked the floor.



The hall was ready for the show.
Families returned in their guided groups.
Ben sat beside Dad near the back.
Max joined his mum across the aisle.



Mina stood in the small performance area.
She could see the clear doors behind everyone.
The big tree prop was not there.
Her teacher gave the starting signal.



The first song filled the hall.
Rain tapped softly beyond the windows.
Ben could hear every word from his chair.
Max tapped the rhythm on his knee.



Then another group told a short story.
They used three small hand-held pictures.
No large scenery blocked the room.
Families clapped when the story ended.



Mina's group bowed at the end.
Their teacher led them off the small area.
Ms. Lee thanked the families and helpers.
The fair had reached its new finishing time.



Afterward, the friends met by the timetable.

Ben pointed to the three large boxes.

"The same room did three different jobs."

Mina pointed to the middle one.



"It needed time between the two."

Max looked at the clear hall floor.

"And not every outdoor game moved inside."

Ms. Lee folded the unused yard plan.



They kept the new plan for next time.

Dad helped take the book boxes home.

The caretaker checked the hall once more.

The exits and paths were still clear.



Outside, the rain was growing lighter.
Ben stood under the roof with his friends.
Mina hummed the end of her song.
Max watched drops fall from the gutter.



"We almost had no fair," Ben said.
Mina looked at the folded new plan.
"We had to change where and when."
Together, they carried the light signs inside.



Talk About the Story

LOOK BACK AT THE WHOLE STORY

1. How did the hall do three jobs?
2. Why did they leave time for packing?
3. Which outdoor activity had to wait?



Think and Discuss

CONNECT THE STORY TO YOUR LIFE

1. When have you changed plans because of rain?
2. How could you keep a walkway clear?
3. What light things could you help pack?



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 ...



Draw a New Fair Plan

Draw three boxes for stalls, packing, and a show.

Show how people can get to the doors.

First we can ... _____

Before the show, we can ...

_____



The End

The fair had a new place and time.

The hall had room for three jobs.

