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Class Eight Grade One

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**Sammy and Sandy**



by Edward Tan

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**the volcano**

Once upon a time, there was a mountain. On the top of the mountain was a house. And in the house lived a family, a mom, a dad, a boy and a girl. The boy was named Sammy, and the girl was named Sandy. They were twins.

In the morning, they woke up, brush teeth, washed faces, ate breakfast, and went to school. When they came back from school, first, they ate snacks, then did their homework. Before the dinner, they would play in the back garden.

After a while, they found that the mountain they lived was actually an extinct volcano. The crater was not on top of the mountain, but on the slope of the mountain. So, they dug a channel, all the way to a small puddle, where the water came from a pipe connect to the ocean.

One day, the house started to shake wildly, earthquake! They ran to the front gate when there was a loudest sound they ever heard before from the side of the volcano, *Kaboom!* The volcano exploded. A gust of dark cloud was surging out the crater, and covered the sun. Not a beam of sunlight can be seen. The pumices came pouring down. At first, they were small and not so fast, then they became as big as basketball that pounded down. Everyone was scared as they climbed down to the basement and slammed the door shut.

After a long time, the pounding of the pumices finally stopped. Everyone climbed out of the basement, exhausted. They opened the door and pumices rolled into the house. They had to dig a tunnel out. The volcano wasn't erupting, but the smell of the smoke still lingered in the air.

**Their Pets**

The family was very rich. They donated half of the money to the poor and used the money left to buy a train, a plane, a van, a car, a trailer and a boat. Behind their house is another two-floor house they bought for their pets, including some hamsters, two cats and two dogs.

The hamsters all lived in one room. They ate, pooed, played, exercised and slept in it. They ran on a rolling machine, slept on a soft red blanket, and ate in a small plastic bowl.

The dogs and cats also had their own rooms. There was a small den in the dog's room, inside had a furry blanket, outside had a small food bowl, a toy bone and a toy ball. There was another small den in the cat's room, inside also had a furry blanket, outside had a toy mouse and a toy fish. Beside the toys was the bowl of cat's food and an opened fish can. The second floor was a playground for them. There was a slide. Under the slide was a tunnel for hide and seek. And there was a twisted ladder to the top of the slide. The door of the house wasn't in the first floor, but on the roof of the second floor. There was a bridge that connected from the family's house to the pet's house.

The family also had some fish in the pond. Every morning and evening, they fed the fish. Beside the pet house, there were some birds. The birds were free. They didn't live in a cage, but lived in nests in a giant tree. The birds loved the family. Every day they help the family catch worms in the back garden.

**The Beach**

One day, the whole family went to the beach with their dogs and cats. Dad and mom played with the pets in the beach. Sammy and Sandy wanted to make a sand castle. First, they dug a moat and they made a bridge on the side of sand near ground. Then they filled the bucket with the sand, and dumped the bucket on the island surrounded by the moat as quickly as they could. They patted the bucket to make sure no sand stuck in it. At last, they lifted the bucket carefully and filled the cracks with sand so the castle wouldn't be crumble. Done!

They stared at the castle and found something was wrong. Why was there no water in the moat? So, they dug the moat deeper, all the way to the ocean and now the water flowed into the moat.

Later, they wanted to dig another river. First, they piled the sand into a small hill. Then they dug into the hill until they were so tired and they couldn't dig anymore. So, they ran into the ocean with their bucket and came back with water. Then they dumped the water into the hill and water could surge out the other side. They patted the sand and started digging the river. When they finished, they found some sticks for the bridge. They piled the sand on the sticks and put them over the river. On the wider parts of the river, the bridge even had piers.

They sat on the sand and waited for the waves to come. They waited and waited. At last, a wave finally surged in the river, crashed the piers, and surged into the cave, came back from the other side and back to the ocean.

**The Camp**

After a few weeks, they went camping. They packed the fridge in the van full of food and put three tents in the trailer, one for mom and dad, one for Sammy and Sandy, the third for pets.

They drove on the highway for several hours and finally arrived at the camp ground. The camp ground was near the creek at the foot of the mountain. There was a forest besides, and a river far away. Over the river was a bridge. Sometimes you could see trains cross by.

They parked the van. Everyone got out and collected branches and rocks for the campfire. Then they built up the tents together. It's dark outside and it's time for dinner. Mom cooked a delicious dinner, including marshmallows, grilled sausage, fried eggs and apple juice.

After dinner, Sammy and Sandy sat beside the camp fire and told stories about their school.

The stars in the sky twinkled like millions of eyes. The fireflies on the grass near the forest sparkled like thousands of flying lanterns. The frogs near the creek sang beautiful songs.

What a beautiful night!

**The Tree House**

One day, a big truck stopped in front of their house. There was a big tree on the truck. This tree was besides a sidewalk before. Because someone planned to build a new house there, the tree had to be moved away. But where to move? At last, the tree was moved to the grass field in their front yard.

When the tree grew stronger, Sammy and Sandy wanted to build a tree house on it. Mom and dad used four days and it’s finally done.

The tree house had two floors. The first floor had three rooms. There were small blankets and one small cupboard in the two small rooms. One was for Sammy, the other was for Sandy. There was a toy pig on the blanket of Sammy's room. On the wall were two paintings by Sammy. One was his dog, the other was he playing with his dog. In the cupboard, there were a stack of books, some about adventures, and some about mysteries. In Sammy's room, there was a toy leopard on the cupboard. All the photos on the wall were taken when they went to the beach. In her cupboard, there are legend and history books. There was a small table and two small chairs in the living room. Even a sink and air conditioner inside. The water was from a big tank which could collect and store the rain. The engineer of the air conditioner was strapped on a strong branch. The air conditioner and the sink used the same pipe connected to the drain.

The second was an attic, where some bats lived inside. There were some old things they used when they are little kids, like some small tables, chairs, old books, and an old air conditioner.