

## Going to Bed

"I don't want to go to bed!" Have you ever said	11
that? Have you ever heard a child say that? My	21
little boy says that. He says he does not want to go	33
to bed. My son does not just say this once in a	45
while. He says this every night. He says this at	55
bedtime. Why don't children want to go to bed? I	65
think I know why.	69
In the day there are many things to do. Going to	80
bed means we have to stop playing. Kids may not	90
want to stop playing. Kids don't want to wait until	100
tomorrow. Tomorrow seems too far away. Adults	107
sometimes think time goes by quickly. Kids may	115
think one hour is a long time.	122
I tell my son that going to sleep will help. He will	134
have more fun playing tomorrow. Then he closes	142
his eyes and falls asleep.	147

## Go to the Store

Mom wanted me to go to the store. She gave	10
me a list. On the list was milk, butter, bread, and	21
jam. She also wanted me to get some apples. I	31
rode my bike to the store.	37
I needed a basket for all the items. I found	47
most of the items. A clerk helped me find the jam. I	59
had to decide between strawberry and raspberry	66
jam. I chose strawberry.	70
I had ten dollars with me. The bill was nine	80
dollars and thirty cents. The clerk gave me seventy	89
cents for change. I put the items in a bag. Then I	101
put the bag in the basket on my bike.	110
When I got home, my mom said I did a good	121
job. I had all the items my mom had on the list. The	134
next morning I had my favorite breakfast. I had	143
toast with strawberry jam. It pays to help out with	153
family jobs. I look forward to the next time my	163
mom asks me to help out.	169

# Saturday

Saturday is the best day of the week. That is	10
the day that you have free time. It is also the day	22
that you can sleep in the morning. It can be kind of	34
hard to sleep. My little brother is loud in the	44
morning!	45
I have a hard time staying in bed. There are	55
too many things I want to do. When Saturday	64
comes I want to call my friends. They are just as	75
happy about Saturday as I am. We start calling	84
each other on the phone. We find out that one of us	96
has a job to do. Someone else may have some	106
place to go with her family. It's hard finding time	116
on Saturday to play at the same time.	124
Sometimes my parents make plans for me on	132
Saturday. I don't like it. I don't want to do what	143
they want me to do. This takes away all the fun of	155
Saturday. I wish my parents would not make plans	164
on Saturday. All kids should have free time.	172

## October Leaves

October is a good time to play outside. All the leaves are	12
laying on the ground. The leaves look pretty. Orange and brown	23
and yellow are the colors I see. I like to rake the leaves into a big	39
pile. Underneath, the grass is still green.	46
My friend Jimmy and I like to jump on the pile of leaves. We	60
get leaves in our hair and in our shoes. Pretty soon, the leaves	73
are all over the lawn again. Then we pick up our rakes and rake	87
some more. Pushing and pulling on the rake makes our arms	98
tired. We put all the leaves in bags so they will not blow away.	112
Jimmy is surprised when I bring him a big glass of lemonade	124
to drink. I tell him I am pleased that he helped rake my lawn.	138
We sit down on the steps and drink our lemonade. The lawn	150
looks nice and green again. But I did like the orange, yellow and	163
brown colors on the grass.	168
Tomorrow, Jimmy wants me to help rake his lawn. I tell him	180
that sounds fair, as long as I get some lemonade when we finish!	193
He says fine and I know we'll have fun raking the colored leaves	206
again.	207

## I Like to Sing

I like to sing. The sound of a song makes me	11
feel good. I really like to sing songs that I know	22
well. Songs that I sing many times are my favorite	32
songs. That's strange. You might think that I would	41
not like a song that I have sung many times. You	52
know, now that I think about it, I usually don't like a	64
song the first time that I hear it.	72
The same is true about songs that I learn to	82
sing. The first time that I try to sing the song I	94
usually don't enjoy singing it. Maybe many things	102
are like that. Maybe it takes some time to learn	112
how to enjoy something.	116
Maybe people are like songs. When we first	124
meet them we don't know them. Since we don't	133
know them we don't enjoy them as much as we will	144
after we get to know them. I like that. People are	155
like songs. It makes me think about what kind of	165
song I'd like to be.	170

## Power Dive

The hawk is a great hunter. Frieda knew that. She	10
liked to watch hawks circle in the sky.	18
She wondered why hawks flew in circles. Then one	27
day she found the answer. She looked up into the sky	38
and saw a big hawk circling above a rabbit. The hawk	49
stopped flying in a circle. It began to dive. The hawk dove	61
down at the rabbit. The hawk dove faster and faster.	71
Frieda thought the rabbit would see the hawk. The	80
rabbit could not see the hawk because it was coming	90
from above.	92
The hawk was diving very fast. Frieda thought it	101
would hit the ground before it would be able to stop. She	113
saw the hawk spread its wings. The hawk's claws came	123
down on the rabbit.	127
Soon the hawk was flying away. It had the rabbit in	138
its claws. It flew higher and higher.	145
Frieda had her answer. She was glad she wasn't a	155
rabbit!	156

## The Owl

I was taking a walk by the lake. It was morning. It was	13
very quiet out. The day was beginning to get warm. There was	25
just a little breeze. The leaves in the trees were just barely	37
moving. I was enjoying this walk.	43
Then I saw it. It was up in a big branch just ahead of me. It	59
was big, about two feet high. The great horned owl didn't move.	71
His big eyes just stared into mine. I knew it had been watching	84
me. His feathers formed funny horns on his head. He looked	95
very majestic. I stopped still in the path and studied him.	106
He must have been fishing. The lake was clear. From	116
where he sat he could easily watch for fish. Suddenly his head	128
turned around on his body as he looked away. He was staring	140
at the lake again. He didn't seem to be afraid of me. A chill ran	155
up my back. Maybe I should be afraid of him. He looked like he	169
might weigh more than me. He sure looked big. I had never	181
heard any stories about owls attacking people, though. Now	190
that's a foolish idea.	194
I bravely walked closer. Then, with majestic grace, he flew	204
up out of sight. I knew I had just seen something rare and	217
beautiful.	218

## "Me, Too!"

My little sister, Jan, is a "me too" girl. If I get myself a	14
cookie, she says, "Me, too." If I come home eating a candy bar,	27
she says, "Me, too." When I watch a good TV show she says,	40
"Me, too" and sits down to watch. She can't even read yet, but	53
she gets to do things that only older brothers should get to do.	66
Jan uses "Me too" all the time because it works. When I go	79
for a walk, she gets to come along. When I play with a friend,	93
she gets to play, too. When I paint pictures, she gets to paint, too.	107
I even have to take her along frog hunting. This has got to stop.	121
I have a plan. I've talked to my dad about this plan. He	134
thinks it's a pretty good plan, too. So, we begin whispering	145
about something. Jan runs up and shouts, "Me, too. Me, too."	156
Dad says, "Yes, Jan, you too. You both shovel the snow from the	169
sidewalk."	170
Jan's eyes open wide. "Me, too?" she asks.	178
"Yes!" says Dad.	181
Next I'm going to start whispering about cleaning my room and	192
taking out the garbage! I think she'll learn to stop saying "me	204
too" very soon, don't you?	209



## The Big Family

I have a big family. There are 5 boys and 3 girls. We live in	15
a little house in the city. I am the oldest boy. I am 15 years old. I	32
take care of my little brothers and sisters. My mom and dad have	45
to work. Soon, I can get a job. My baby sister is only one year	60
old. She can walk now! She tries to run after the cat. The twins	74
are 5 years old. They will go to school in the fall. They do not	89
look like twins. One is a girl with brown hair and the other is a	104
boy with black hair. They like to go to the park and swing.	117
Sometimes, when I want to be with my friends, my	127
Grandma will come over. She brings candy for the children. She	138
tells them stories about when she was a little girl. She had a big	152
family, too. Most of her brothers and sisters are gone. She has 3	165
grown up children that all live in the same city.	175
When one of us has a birthday, we have a big party with all	189
of the aunts and uncles and cousins. When we all get together,	201
there are about 25 of us. We go to the park and play baseball	215
and basketball. My brothers and sisters like to swim in the little	227
pool. At lunch time we all eat hot dogs and chips and fruit. Then,	241
we eat the birthday cake! It's fun having a big family. We have a	255
lot of fun together!	259

## Stone House

We have a cabin on a lake. I like many things about	12
our cabin. I like the pine trees and the sand. The water in	25
the lake is very clean and clear. That makes swimming a	36
lot of fun. The water is not very deep on our side of the	50
lake so it is very safe for swimming. The lake is very large	63
so there is always a wind blowing on our side of the lake.	76
We have a sailboat and I like sailing very much.	86
What I like the most about being at our cabin is the old	99
stone house in the woods. There are trees all around our	110
cabin. If you walk in the right direction you will find an	122
old stone house. No one lives in the house anymore. My	133
brother and I like to pretend that people hide in the old	145
stone house. We sneak through the woods and spy on	155
the house. Most of the time we scare ourselves! No one is	167
ever really there. You never can tell, though. One day	177
we may see someone.	181
We go to our cabin every summer. Going to the cabin	192
is the best part of summer. I can't wait till this summer!	204

## Peppy

Peppy was Amy's dog. He was always digging holes	9
in the ground. Amy's mother and father did not like this.	20
"Amy, you have to teach him to stop digging."	29
"I do tell him," said Amy. He will not stop. Peppy	40
likes to hide bones in the ground.	47
One day, Peppy was digging outside. "Stop," called	55
Amy. "Stop digging." But Peppy did not stop. He was	65
hiding a bone. "Father, you have to help me," said Amy.	76
"We will not give him any more bones," said Amy's	86
father. "Then he will stop." The next day Peppy did not	97
dig holes. This made Amy's mother and father happy.	106
Peppy liked to go for walks. Every day after school,	116
Amy took him to the park. He chased squirrels until they	127
were all up in the trees. Then Amy would throw a stick	139
and Peppy would run to get it.	146
One day Peppy ran away. Amy called and called for	156
him. He did not come. Amy walked up and down the	167
street, but she did not see him. With tears in her eyes, she	180
walked home. When she got to her yard, there was	190
Peppy, sitting on the step. "Peppy!" Amy yelled, "You	199
came home!"	201

## Changing Rooms

Have you ever changed bedrooms? My dad had me switch	10
my bedroom today. What a job that was. But I liked setting up	23
my new room. He had me move into the old den.	34
First we had to move the den things into the basement. That	46
took about three hours. We had to move the desk and the books.	59
We moved the rest of the things until the room was empty, then	72
we had to clean it. When we were done the room looked very	85
big. I could see that it was a lot bigger than my old room.	99
We started moving my things into the room. First we	109
moved the bed. Then we moved the dresser and desk. It was	121
beginning to look like my room. The best part was deciding	132
where to put my treasures. I had enough room on the shelves to	145
show my shell and rock collections. I put a little bookcase by my	158
bed with my best books on it. Best of all, I set up a little reading	174
place behind the bed. Moving bedrooms is a lot of work, but it	187
was worth it.	190

## Throwing Rocks

I've thrown a lot of rocks into the pond. I think I've	12
thrown enough to fill in the whole pond. But it never	23
seems to get full. You can tell that I like to throw rocks.	36
But throwing rocks is more fun with Grandpa. He	45
can make anything a game. He likes to throw rocks, too.	56
He gets me to throw them farther or funnier. Sometimes	66
we throw them at a piece of wood in the pond.	77
Grandpa is really good at skipping rocks. He taught	86
me how to skip rocks. Skipping means it bounces off the	97
water. I can skip a rock 5 times. Well, I did once.	109
Grandpa likes to think of games. We play games	118
skipping rocks. We see who can skip a rock the most	129
times. Sometimes we see who can skip it the highest.	139
Sometimes we see who can skip the rock only twice.	149
The real trick is finding the right rock. The best rocks	160
are flat. They are the easiest to skip. Sometimes we can't	171
find flat rocks. Then Grandpa thinks of a new game. We	182
see who can skip the roundest rock. It doesn't matter	192
what rocks we find. Grandpa can always make up a	202
game.	203

# Sunday

Sunday is not like Saturday. It has a different name.	10
But that's not all.	14
Sunday seems quiet. My dad likes to read the	23
Sunday paper. The Sunday paper is very big. It takes a	34
long time.	36
Dad likes the sports page best. He doesn't like it if	47
someone else takes the sports section. We have many	56
teams in our city. In the fall, our football team is all my	69
dad talks about. He talks about football so much that my	80
mom gets mad. My sister and I like to hear about our	92
teams. We wait until Mom is gone. Then we ask Dad	103
about sports when he was our age. Our city did not have	115
a football team when Dad was little. That must have	125
been a long time ago.	130
On Sunday we go for a ride in our car. My sister and I	144
don't like to go. After about ten minutes we get bored. We	156
ask, "Are we almost there?" My mom and dad love going	167
for a "Sunday Drive". When we get home we eat a big	179
meal. It seems like Sundays are too short.	187

## The Rest

Bill sat on a rock on the bank. The lake was as	12
smooth as glass. He took off his shoes and socks and	23
dangled his feet in the cool water. The sun felt warm on	35
his face. He leaned back against the bank and closed his	46
eyes.	47
He listened to the sounds coming from the woods.	56
He heard a crow calling in the distance. He heard leaves	67
rustling. He heard squirrels chasing each other through	75
the leaves. He heard the buzzing of a bug flying nearby.	86
Then he sat up and watched the bug. It flew from	97
one rock to another as if looking for something. Its	107
buzzing grew softer as it flew farther away from him.	117
Suddenly a gull flew down in front of him. It skimmed the	129
water for a second. Bill could see part of a fish hanging	141
from its beak. It flew down along the beach with its catch.	153
Bill watched it as it flew out of sight. A butterfly fluttered	165
close to him. It landed on his arm. It was yellow and	177
black. It waved its wing to steady itself. Then it continued	188
its journey.	190

## Washing Clothes

I like to watch my mother wash the clothes. She	10
sorts all of the clothes into piles. At first, I did not know	23
why she did this. I thought she was just making a pile that	36
would fit into the washing machine. But then I noticed	46
that some of the piles were smaller.	53
I asked her why she made the piles in different sizes.	64
She told me that the size of the pile did not matter. What	77
was important was the fabric used to make the clothes. I	88
didn't understand. So she showed me. Some of the	97
clothes were made of cotton. I picked up a shirt made of	109
cotton. It felt very soft. Then my mother gave me a pair of	122
pants. They did not feel as soft. She said they were made	134
of rayon. I was happy that my pillowcase was made of	145
cotton!	146
My mother also sorts the clothes by color. There is	156
one pile for white clothes. There are other piles for dark	167
clothes and light colored clothes. This is so that they will	178
not stain each other. Washing clothes is harder than I	188
thought.	189



## Where Jerome Lived

Jerome lived with his mother in a wonderful place. Even	10
though their house was very old, it had lots of windows. Best of	23
all, when you looked out of any window you could see forever.	35
The reason you could see so far was that Jerome lived in the	48
country. The country that Jerome lived in was flat. Most people	59
called it the prairie. If you could find a tree to climb and looked	73
as far into the distance as you could, you might see some hills.	86
Jerome was never sure if he actually saw the hills when he	98
looked for them, but that didn't matter. If you believed you saw	110
them, that was just about as good as really seeing them. That	122
was the nice thing about being a child. Your imagination could	133
make where you lived into whatever you wanted it to be.	144
Sometimes Jerome imagined that he lived in the hills.	153
Living there was very different from living on the prairie. The	164
hills were very green with many, many trees. What Jerome liked	175
best, though, were the streams. He imagined sitting still all day	186
long by a stream and listening to the clear, rushing water.	197
Someday maybe he really would live in the hills!	206

## The New Sled

Jimmy had a new sled. He waited until Saturday to try it. It	13
had snowed the day before. Everything was perfect.	21
He climbed the hill behind Mr. Smith's house. It was very	32
high. When Jimmy got to the top he could see far, far away. This	46
was going to be fun.	51
Jimmy liked the new sled. It was red with silver stripes. He	63
pushed the sled to the edge of the hill and got on. Soon the sled	78
started down the hill. Faster and faster it went. Jimmy laughed	89
as snow flew into his face.	95
The sled ride went faster than he wanted. The ride was	106
over too soon. Now Jimmy was at the bottom of the hill and	119
looking up. I don't want to climb that hill, he thought. It's too	132
hard. But he knew if he wanted another ride, he'd have to walk	145
up the hill.	148
Up the high hill Jimmy walked. Behind was the sled that he	160
pulled with him. There has to be an easier way he said to	173
himself. Just wait. I will think of a new way soon.	184
And pretty soon Jimmy did think of a new plan. The next	196
time he went sledding he brought his little brother along. They	207
took turns pulling the sled up the hill and had lots of fun.	220

## Going to the Lake

In the summer my family goes to the lake.	9
Sometimes we go for a week. Sometimes we go longer. It takes us two days to get ready.	20
All the clothes have to be packed. I pack my own clothes. Mom helps my little sister pack her things. One year I forgot to pack my shorts. But I never forget the good stuff. I remember my fishing pole.	27
We find someone to take care of our house when we go. That's where I come in. I find a friend to take care of my hamster. I find another friend to take care of the cat. I find a friend to cut the lawn. Then I find another friend to get the mail. Sometimes a friend wants a lot of jobs. Then I can get one person to do all four jobs.	38
I like to help my dad pack up the car. Then I know we're almost on our way. My dad is good at packing the car. He finds room for the things we want to bring. I hand him all the stuff. He packs it in the car. When the car is all packed, we can leave for the lake.	48
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## The Pail

I was in the lake swimming with my brother. It was a very	13
hot day. I had been in the water for about an hour. I wasn't	27
planning to get out for a long time. It felt great. My brother and I	42
had played many games of tag, catch and inner tube.	52
I looked up and saw two new boys coming down the path.	64
It looked like we would soon have company. One boy looked	75
like he was around thirteen and the other was a lot younger.	87
They carried a pail. Sure enough, they walked out into the water	99
and began swimming.	102
Then they stopped playing around in the water. They got	112
the pail and took it in the water. We couldn't figure out what they	126
were doing. They were walking down the shore and soon came	137
near us.	139
We asked them what was in their pail. They turned it so we	152
could see. Rocks, beautiful rocks! We soon found out the older	163
boy was Reggie and the younger one was his brother, Willy.	174
They had a better game than we did. It didn't take us long to start	189
helping with the collection. We liked swimming under water to	199
find the right stone. We never did find out what the rocks were	212
for but it was great fun.	218