

Ben And The Ball

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Ben lives in a house at the top of a hill. He likes playing outside with his friends. Today is Ben's birthday. He has a new orange ball and he's wearing a new sweater with a hood.

Ben goes outside but his friends aren't there. He kicks his ball against the wall. Ben likes his new ball. He bounces his ball on his foot and on his knee. He kicks his ball higher and higher. Then the ball falls into the hood on Ben's sweater.

'Where's my ball?' he says.
'Is it over the wall?' he says.





Ben looks for his ball in the long grass. He looks for his ball behind the rocks. He looks for his ball under the bushes. Ben goes to look for his new orange ball.

He sees an old lady. She's cleaning her fruit and vegetables.

'I can see my ball,' says Ben. 'Can I have my ball, please?'

'That isn't your ball,' says the lady. 'That's my melon.'



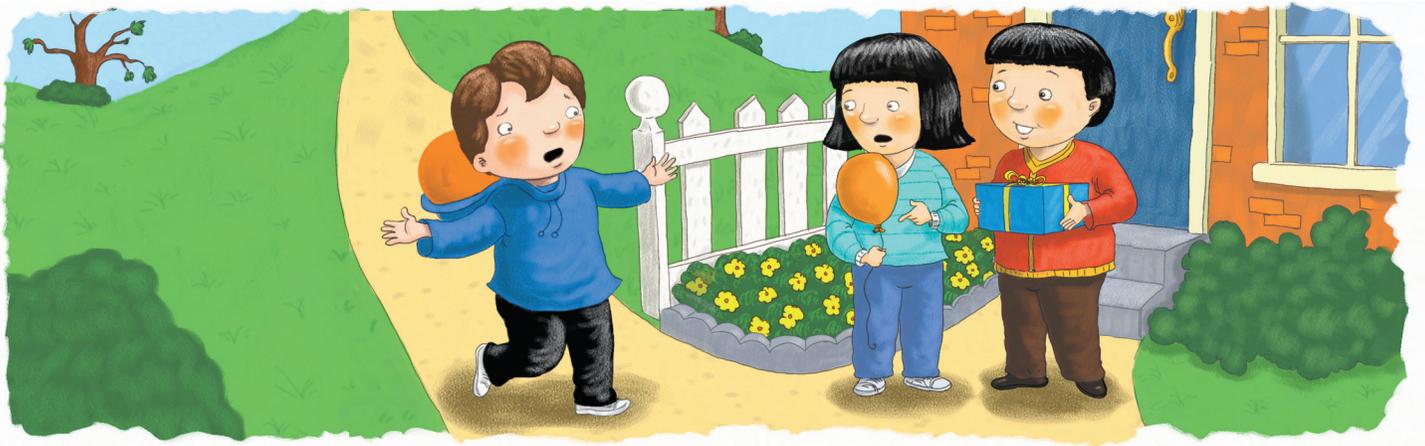
Ben goes down the hill. He sees a man with a motorbike. 'I can see my ball,' says Ben. 'Can I have my ball, please?' 'That isn't your ball,' says the man. 'That's my helmet.'

Ben goes down the hill.

He sees two children. They're coming out of a house.

'I can see my ball,' says Ben. 'Can I have my ball, please?'

'That isn't your ball,' says the girl. 'That's my balloon.'



Ben goes down the hill. He sees a man working in a field.

'I can see my ball,' says Ben. 'Can I have my ball, please?'

'That isn't your ball,' says the man. 'That's my pail.'

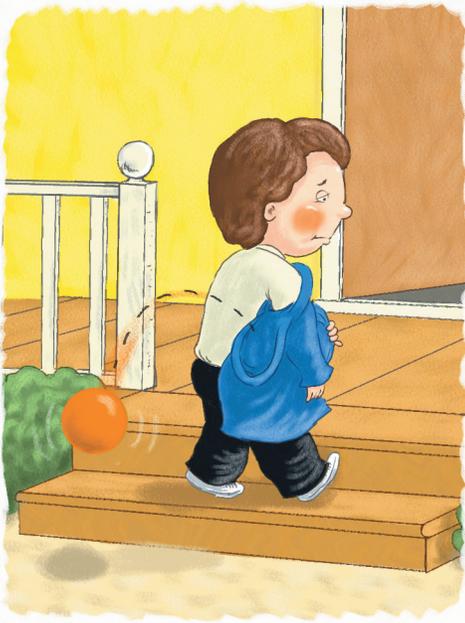


Ben arrives at the bottom of the hill. He sees a boy.

He's fishing in the river. 'I can see my ball,' says Ben. 'Can I have my ball, please?'

'That isn't your ball,' says the boy. 'That's my fishing bag.'



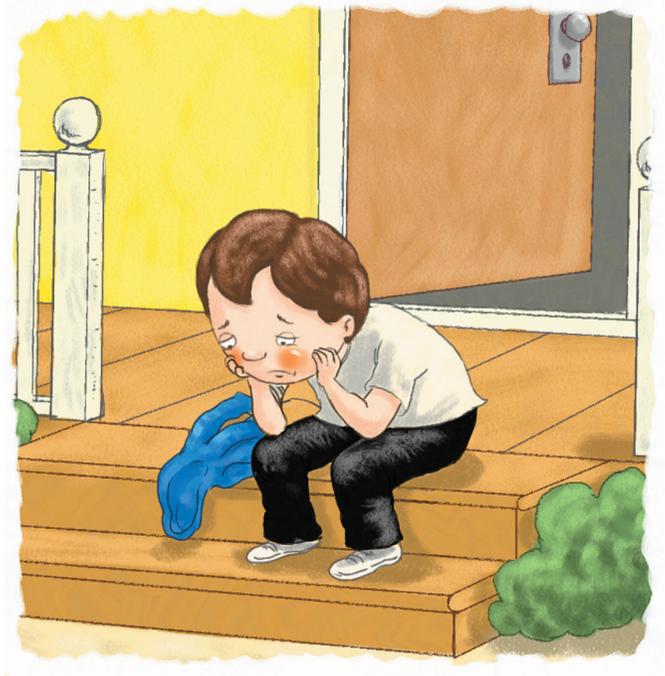


Ben is very sad. 'Where's my new orange ball?' he says.

He walks slowly up the hill. He goes back to his house. He takes his sweater off. His orange ball falls out of the hood!

But Ben doesn't see it. He sits down outside his house.

'Where's my new orange ball?' he says again.



Suddenly Ben sees his ball!

'There's my ball!' shouts Ben. He runs and picks it up. 'Yes! It's my new orange ball! But where did it come from? I don't understand.'

