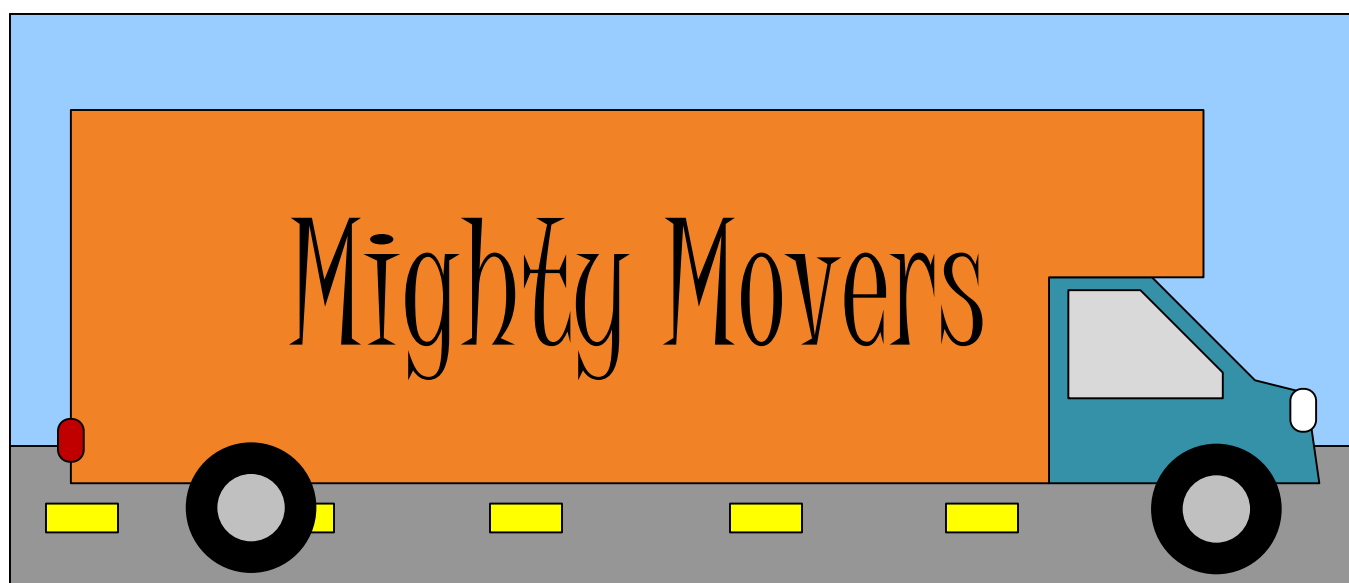


The Big Move

Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

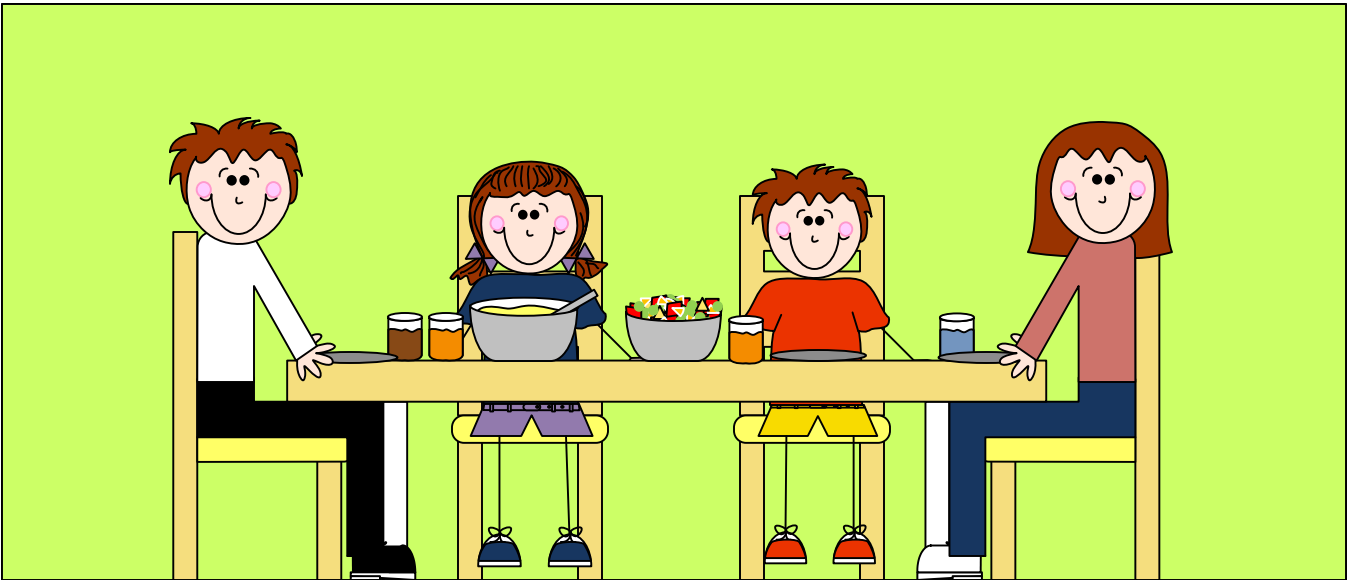
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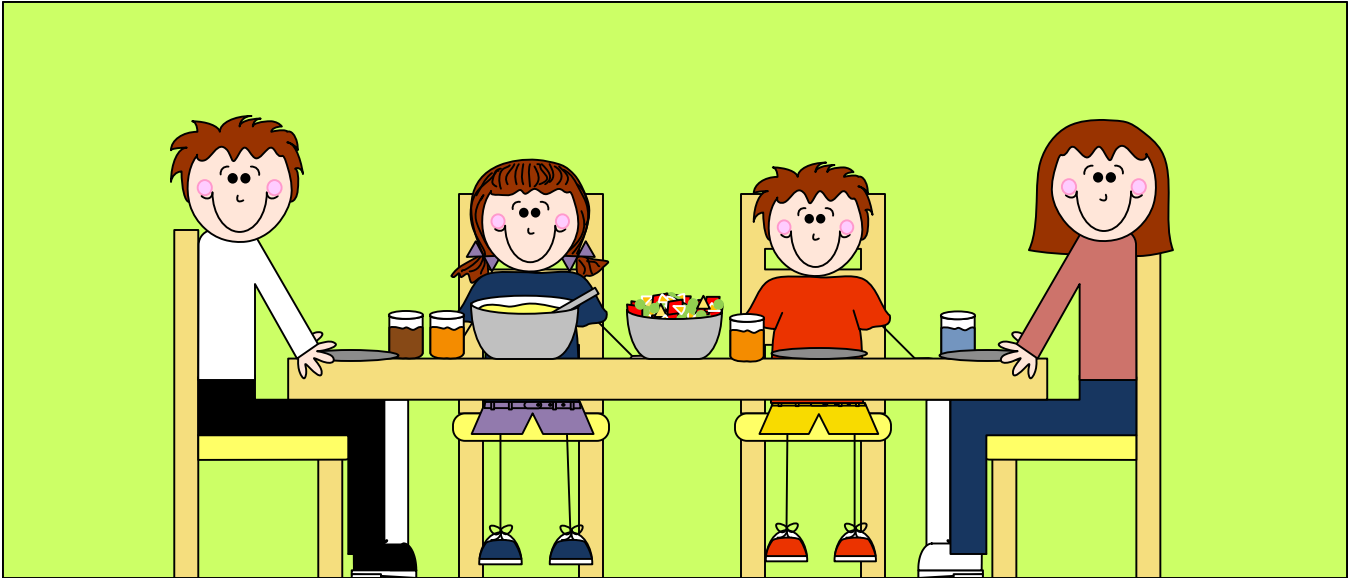
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One night during dinner, Dan and Pat's mom and dad told them they had some news.

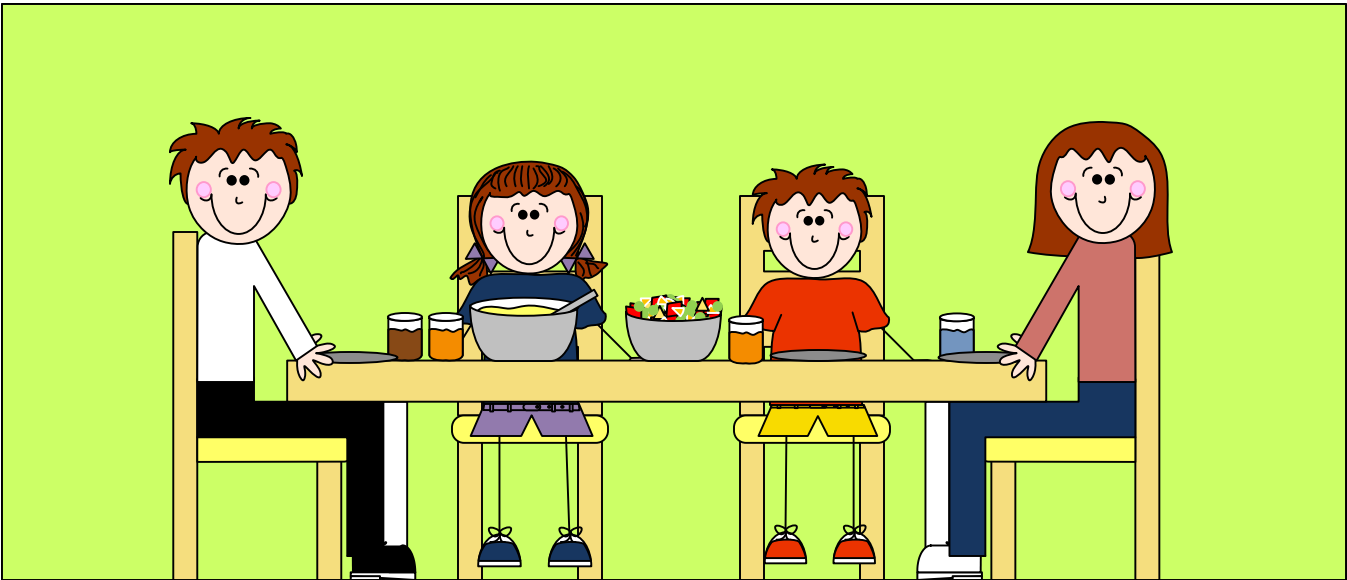


“Dan, Pat,” said Dad, “your mom and I have talked and thought about it, and we have made a plan for our family. We are going to move to a new city.”

3

Dan and Pat just sat and thought about what it was going to be like to move. How would they take their rooms with them? How would they still play with their friends? Would they still go to the same school? They asked their mom and dad all of their questions. Their mom and dad tried to explain it better.

5



“What does that mean?” asked Dan.

“Well,” said Dad, “it means that we are going to buy a new house in a new city, and we are not going to live here anymore.”

4

“You will pack all your things in boxes, and we will take the boxes to the new house. Your walls and floor will stay in the old house. The yard will stay with the old house. You will go to a new school, and you will make new friends. We can still visit some people, like your best friends,” explained Mom.

6

“Do we have to move?” asked Pat. “I don’t want to go! I want to stay here in my room and go to my school and play with my friends.”

“Oh, sweetie, yes we have to move,” said Mom. “We think this is the best thing to do for the family. It will be a better house and a better school. You will make new friends. It will be great!”

A nicer house sounded like fun. Maybe it would have a big yard for them to run around and play games. They liked to play outside in the yard. Maybe going to a new school would not be that bad. They would have new teachers and meet lots of new kids. Maybe some of the kids at school would live near them, and they could play together after school. Maybe moving wouldn’t be so bad after all.

Dan and Pat were very sad at first. They did not want to move. They wanted to keep their house and their friends. But Dan and Pat had to move, so they started to think about what it would be like to live in a new place.

Mom, Dad, Dan, and Pat packed all their stuff in boxes. They packed their stuffed animals, toys, clothes, pillows, blankets, dishes, pictures from the wall, and everything they wanted. They did find some things, like old toys and clothes, which they did not want anymore. They gave those things away to people who needed them.



	Living Room	Dan's Room	Dan's Room	Kitchen
Bath Room	Pat's Room	Pat's Room	Kitchen	Kitchen

On moving day, some men came in a big truck. They put all the boxes on the truck. They also put the beds, couch, chairs, and other big things that did not fit in a box on the truck. Dan and Pat looked around the house when the movers were finished packing the truck. Everything was gone but the things attached to the house, like the doors and the carpet. The house was so empty.



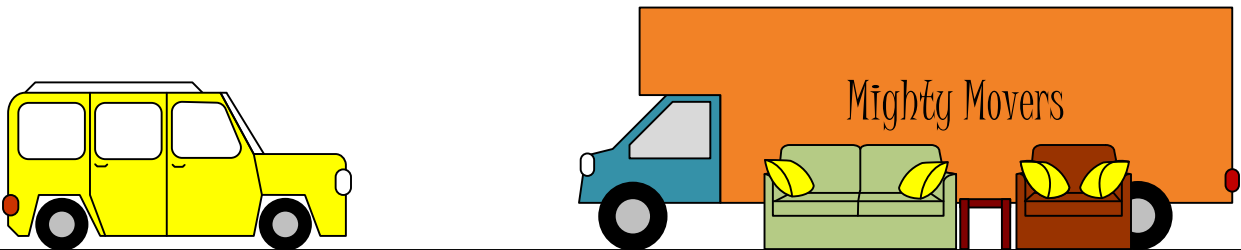
11

When everything was in the new house, Mom, Dad, Dan, and Pat went in to start making the house look like home. They put their beds where they wanted them. They put the chairs where they wanted them. Mom put the dishes in the cabinets in the kitchen. Everyone was busy unpacking all the boxes and putting things in their new places.

13

Mom, Dad, Dan, and Pat got in the car and drove to their new house. It took a while to get to the new house, and Dan and Pat were tired of being in the car. When they got to the new house, the movers had also just gotten there. The movers unpacked the big moving truck. Mom and Dad told the movers where to put everything.

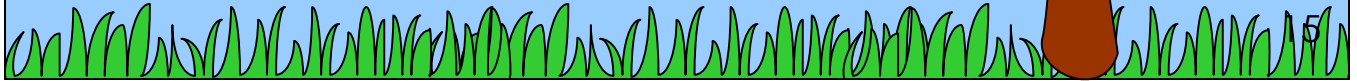
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Dan and Pat both liked their new rooms. They were bigger than the old rooms and had nice windows. There was even an extra room just for playing and keeping toys! The house was so nice! It was so much fun to explore the new house and put their things away in the house.

14

For dinner that night, Dad fixed hot dogs on the grill in the back yard. Mom, Dan, and Pat went in the backyard to eat the hotdogs with Dad. The yard was so big! It had a tree in the corner that shaded the yard. The grass was thick and green and made Dan and Pat want to run around in it.



Dan and Pat went to sleep that night in their old beds with their old stuffed animals in their new rooms in their new house. They liked their new house and were excited about meeting their new friends soon. They had been sad at first when they thought about moving, but they knew it was going to be good after all. They could hardly sleep that night because they were so happy and excited. Mom and Dad were right. Life was going to be great in their new house.

