

The Student Special

Literacy Council of Northern Virginia

Fall 2010

My Twin Sister and Me

By Florence Ilikana
Student

This story tells about me and my twin sister. It tells how we are the same and how we are different.

Flora and I were both born on January 20, 1980. My twin sister was born first. So she is older than me.

When we were children, we looked the same. People did not know who was Florence and who was Flora.

Today we still look like sisters, but people know who is Florence and who is Flora.

We both have short hair. She has teeth the same like me. Our skin color is the same. Of course, our eyes are the same color—all Sudanese have brown eyes!

But Flora is a little taller than me. She is a little bigger than me.

Our voices sound the same. But she speaks slowly and more quietly than me.

We both went to Sudan University in Khartoum. But I went first because I passed the examination one year before Flora. I graduated from the University. Flora went to the University for two years. Then she stopped. Now she is going again to the University.

I am married. Flora is single.

Flora looks like my daughter Martha. She has a round face and big eyes, just like Martha. Her face is rounder than mine. Her eyes are bigger than mine.

Flora lives in Sudan, and I now live in America. I don't see Flora for two years. But we call each other often.

Ann Gets a Pup

By Ron Wise

Skill Book 1 and *In the Valley*, page 15

New words: **want, mother, asks**

Ann is eight.

She has no pets.

She wants a pet.

She tells her mother, "I want a pet."

"Do you want a bird?" asks Ann's mother.

"No," says Ann.

"I do not want a bird."

"Do you want a fish?" Ann's mother asks.

"I do not want a fish," Ann says.

"Do you want a snake?" asks Ann's mother.

"No, no," yells Ann.

"I do not want a snake."

"Do you want a put?" Ann's mother asks.

"Yes," says Ann.

"I want a pup."

Ann and her mother are in Ted's Pet Shop.

Ann's mother tells Ted, "Ann wants a pup."

Ann, her mother, and Ted look at pups.

Go to **Ann**, page 3

Ouch!

By Linda Del Bene

Skill Book 2 and *City Living*, page 15

New words: **ouch**, **make**

Jill is in the kitchen fixing dinner.
She is fixing fish for dinner.
Her mother is working in the garden.

“Ouch!”

Jill jumps and yells and looks at her finger.
Jill has burned her finger!

“Mother!” yells Jill.

“Ouch! I have hurt my finger!
I have burned my finger!”

“Ouch!” yells Jill.

Mother jumps up and runs to the kitchen.
She looks at Jill’s finger.

“Stop jumping,” says Mother.

“Sit and let’s look at the finger.”

Jill sits, and Mother looks at her finger.

Jill’s finger is a little red.

“Can you make it better?” says Jill.

“Can you make my finger better?”

“The finger is just a little red,” says Mother.

“I can make it better.

I can kiss it and make it better,” says Mother.

Mother gives Jill a kiss on her finger.

She kisses the burn on Jill’s finger to make it
better.

Ann, from page 2

Ann is looking and looking at one pup.
“I want this pup,” she tells her mother.

Ann's mother gets the pup for Ann.
Ann gives the pup a name.
The pup's name is Ted

It Was Only a Baby

By Joan Lange Keller

Ellen was going to the store. When she came out of her apartment building, she saw a bird sleeping under some bushes close to the front door. She watched the bird. Soon it opened its eyes but did not move. "It must be resting," she thought, and went on to the store.

An hour later Ellen came home. The bird was still there. Since it did not fly away, it must be hurt. So she decided to call the Animal Shelter for help. A friendly girl told her she would send someone to look at the bird.

It wasn't very long when an Animal Control or police officer came. After he checked the bird, he told Ellen it was only a baby. It had not learned to fly yet. Its mother must be close by and would come back to it soon. The bird would be O.K.

Ellen was so happy that someone came so quickly and to hear that the bird would be all right. But she also felt a little silly that she did not realize that it was only a baby that could not fly.

How I Spent My Summer

By Jin
Student

I was very busy last summer because many visitors visited my home.

When I came back from my vacation, my friends visited my home. I had to cook, drive, guide, and so on. I was really tired, but I was happy because I really missed them. They stayed six days. They went back to Korea.

The next day my sister and nephew came. They stayed one month with us. They really liked America. Especially, my sister liked Leesburg Outlet mall, so we did a lot of shopping.

Although I worked hard for them, it was really a happy time for me. I will miss them.

The Student Special is published four times a year by the Writers Group of the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia. The Editor is Ron Wise. You are invited to write pieces for *The Student Special*. Send them to the Editor, Literacy Council of Northern Virginia, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.