

To the Beach!

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Dear Parents and Teachers,
Read out this story to the little ones
with suitable gestures and voice
modulation so that they listen to you
with rapt attention.
—Editor



Mittu, Sunny and Bunny eagerly packed their swimwear, flying disc and fresh towels. They were all going to the beach for the first time!

“Will there be whales?” asked Bunny innocently. She was only four years old.

“No silly,” said the two boys. “But mom said that there would be lots of crabs and seashells. See, she also gave us a jar to collect the shells,” said Sunny and Mittu showing the jar.

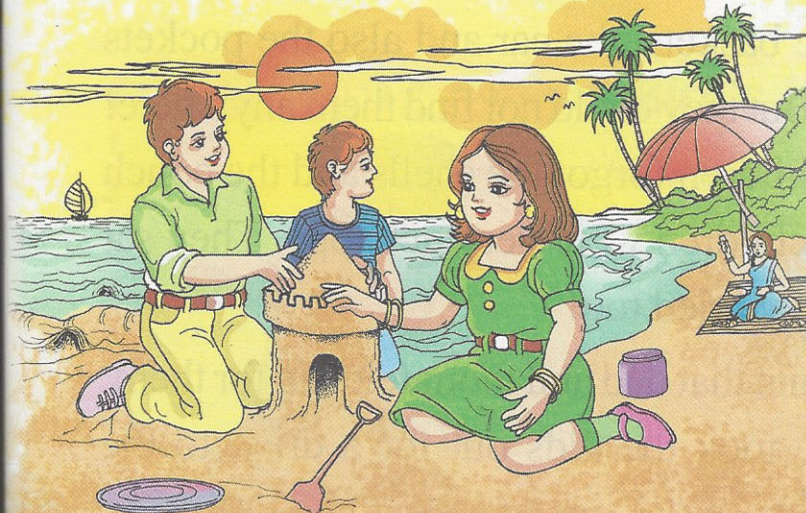
“Oh! How lovely,” said Bunny as she got into the car with her brothers.

As soon as they reached the beach park, the children jumped out of the car and ran inside. They saw a big stretch of sand and then water all the way to the sky!

The children quickly put on their swimwear and rushed to the water. They jumped on the waves and splashed water at each other. They ran backwards and forward in the waves and laughed happily. They also swam in the water with dad and drenched themselves in the salty sea water!

After they played in the water for an hour, mom called them to the shore. She had set up a beautiful beach umbrella and under it spread out delicious snacks for them. The children dried themselves, changed their clothes and relished the yummy sandwiches. Then they all sat on the beach and built a big sandcastle.

Bunny even named the sandcastle ‘Pink Palace,’ because a little pink crab crawled inside the castle, though the castle was all brown. The crab waved the children a ‘thank you’!



After playing for some more time, they all helped mom collect beautiful sea-shells. They collected white, brown, big and small shells.

They even found a beautiful white conch!

When it was time to go home, the children carefully packed the shells and the conch and said goodbye to the sea. They were very tired but also very happy. They just loved the beach and its beautiful shells!

The next day was Sunday and the children got up happily, planning to wash and dry the shells they collected the previous day. But when they went down and asked mom, she did not know where the shells were. And dad too did not know. All of them searched the picnic baskets, the car and also the pockets of the dresses they wore. But they could not find them anywhere! In their excitement the children forgot the shells and the conch on the beach itself. The children were very unhappy. They sat still and did not play. They cried too!

The kids were so quiet that dad and mom felt bad for them. So, in the evening, they took the kids out for a drive to the



beach again! The children jumped with joy when they saw the beach! They played longer and collected more shells than the day before and went to see the castle they had built. It was still intact! The crab was still in it too. But wonder of wonders! The jar with the shells was there too! Right beside the sandcastle! The children screamed with happiness! And mom and dad were very pleased to see them happy.

And you know what! Mom made a beautiful bracelet for Bunny and pen stands for Mittu and Sunny with the shells they had picked! And the children proudly took them to their school and showed them to all their friends.

Wasn't it nice! ●



Animal Facts



A Bird's Heart

A bird's heart beats 400 times per minute while resting and up to 1000 times per minute while flying. In humans, it can be anywhere between 60 to 100 times per minute while resting.

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