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575 words

Mister William Goes To Feathering Heights

by Paul Leigh

Mister William Goes To Feathering Heights



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Knock. Knock. Knock.
“Mister William, Mister William, come quick,” cried his friend Henry.

“Hello, Henry. Hello, Sophie. What is the problem?” asked Mister William.



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Sophie answered, “We found this baby bird...”
“It is a baby blue jay, *Cyanocitta Cristata*,” Mister William chimed in.

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“It fell out of its nest. The nest is in that giant oak tree next to the school-yard,” Henry added.

Mister William said, “This bird needs our help to get back home.”



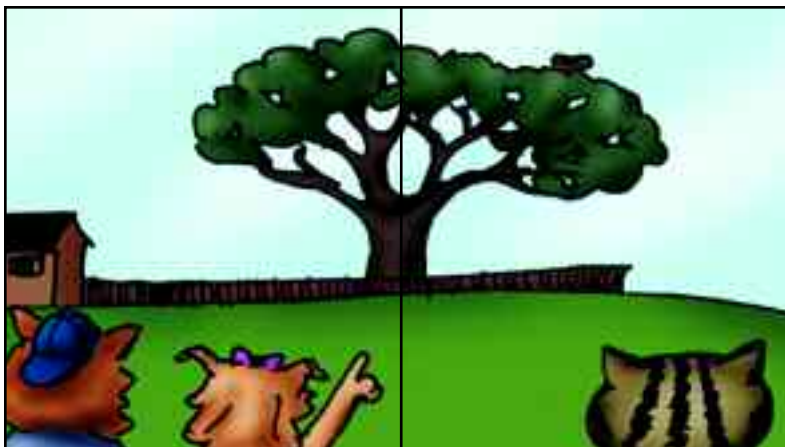
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He then asked his mother, “May I please go with them?”

“Of course, dear. Don’t forget your backpack,” she replied.

Walking to the schoolyard, Sophie pointed to the tree and said, “There’s the nest up there, but that tree is in Mister Snitty’s backyard. He doesn’t like children.”



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“Maybe he likes birds. I will go talk to him,” said Mister William.

At Mister Snitty’s doorstep, Mister William said, “Sir, my name is Mister William, and this baby blue jay fell out of that big tree in your backyard.”



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“Will you please help us get it back into its nest?”

Mister Snitty’s answer was “No!” as he slammed the door shut.

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Mister William placed the bird into his backpack and said, "I have an idea. Henry, Sophie, help me get up that tree."



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They started to build a ladder.

Sophie said, "Be careful, Mister William."



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As Mister William was climbing the tree, Mother Blue Jay pecked him on his head.

"Your baby is safe with me, Mother Blue Jay" said Mister William.

All of a sudden, he heard a loud *Snap!* He came tumbling down.



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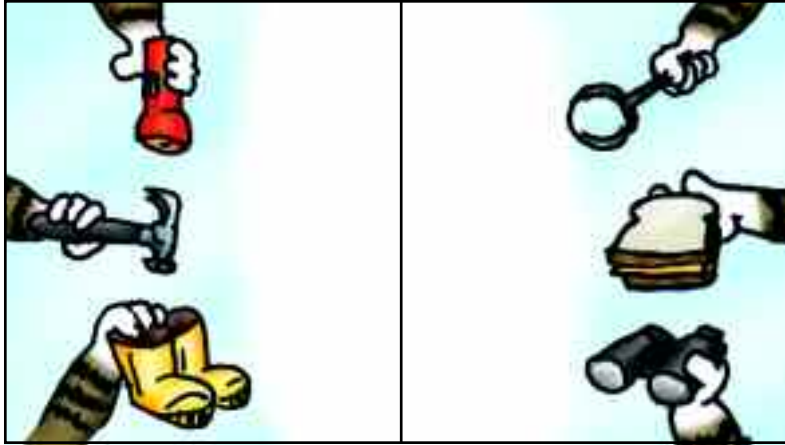
Luckily, his backpack hooked onto a lower tree branch. He realized he has a fear of heights, so he hurriedly searched through his backpack.

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He first pulled out a flashlight,
then a hammer,
then a pair of rain boots,



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then a magnifying glass,
then a ham and cheese sandwich,
then a pair of binoculars,

then a stuffed yellow ducky,
then some birdwatching books,
and then his trusty Cape-and-Mask.



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He slipped his Cape-and-Mask on and then reached into his backpack to find an umbrella.

Using the curved end of the umbrella, he pulled himself onto a stronger tree branch.



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Mister William continued climbing up the tree, with the help of his umbrella.

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Bleep! Bleep!

A loud siren sounded.

“Son, this is the fire department. Mister Snitty called us to make sure you’re OK,” said the firefighter.



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“I am fine, Sir. Thank you for caring, Mister Snitty,” shouted Mister William as he continued his climb towards the nest.

Sophie asked the fireman, “Do you get a lot of calls like this?”

“Little girl, this is our sixth call today for getting a cat out of a tree,” replied the fireman.



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At the nest, Mister William looked into his empty backpack and cried, “Oh no, where is the baby bird?”

He then heard a chirping sound coming from his umbrella. Somehow the baby bird got into the umbrella, but was safe.



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Mister William looked at the nest and asked, “Why are there baby cardinals in here? Oh no, this is not your nest!”

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Momma Bird chirped loudly as she pointed to a smaller tree in the schoolyard.

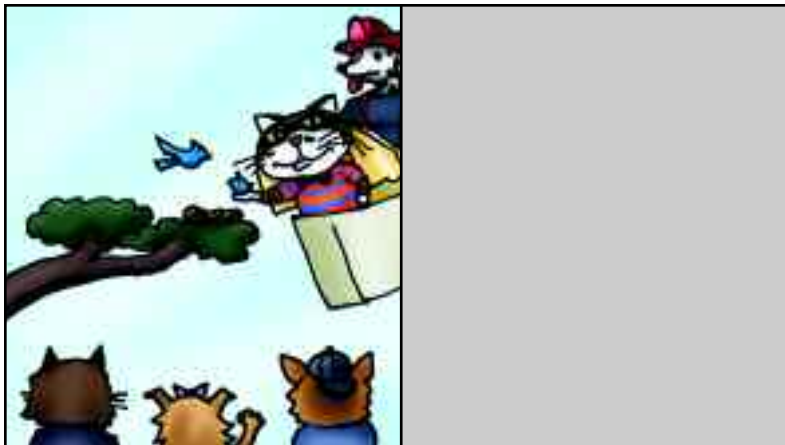


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At that time, the fireman arrived. With the baby bird tucked under his arm and Momma Bird by his side, Mister William climbed into the bucket.

They all cheered, including Mister Snitty, as Mister William laid the baby bird into its nest.



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