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Belle and Billy Stay at Home



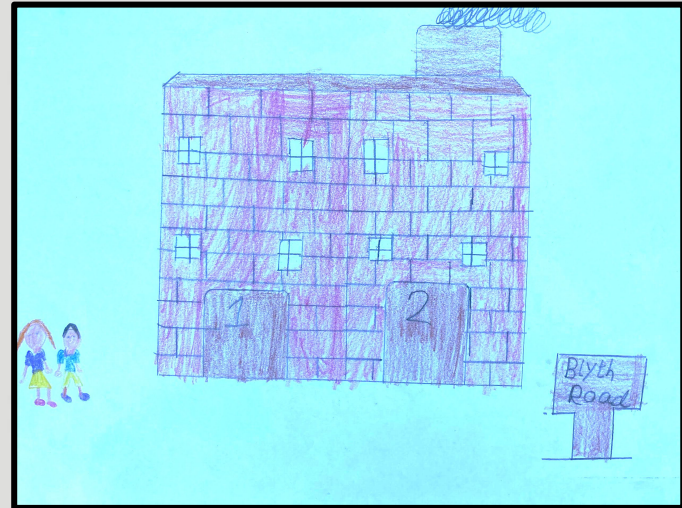
Illustrations by Children of Northumberland

Chapter 1

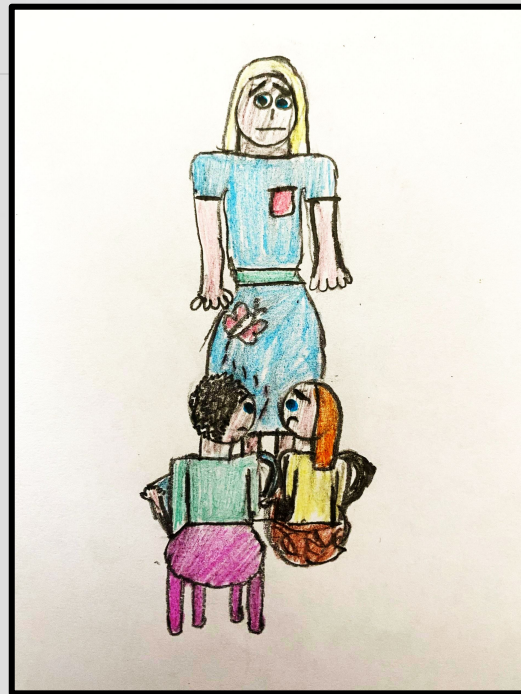
Belle and Billy



Belle and Billy live in Northumberland, they are the best of friends. They live next door to each other on Blyth Road and walk to nursery together everyday. Billy loves painting and drawing. Belle loves playing in the home corner and doing puzzles. The nursery has great things to do and they both love being there.



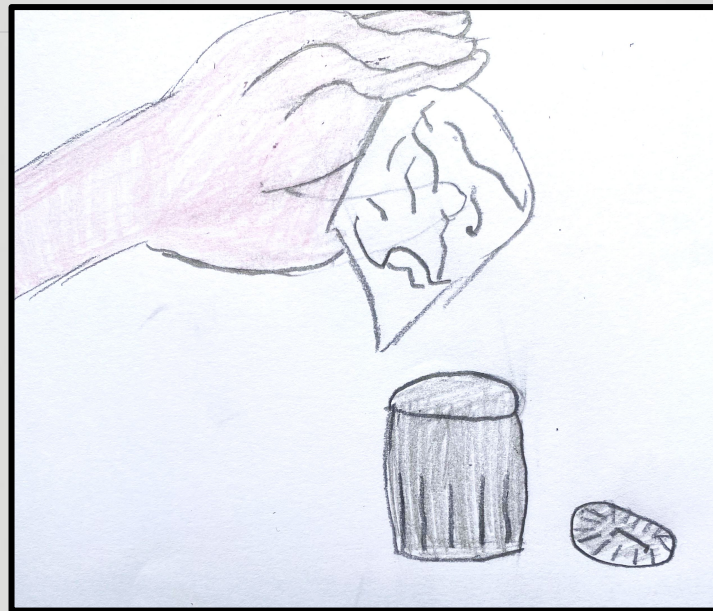
Last week when they were at nursery, their key person Jo, told them all about a virus and that there were things they all had to do to help fight the virus so they didn't get sick. Belle and Billy didn't like getting sick so they were keen to do what Jo asked of them.



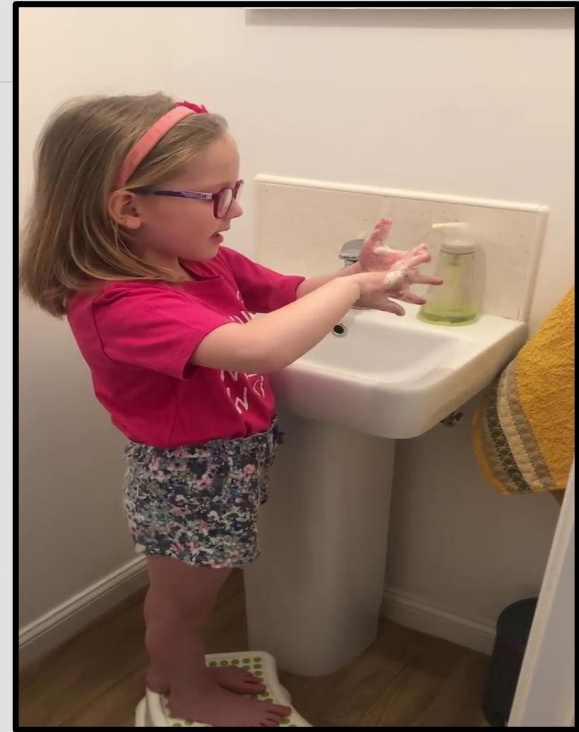


Firstly, Jo showed them what to do if they need to cough or sneeze. She said “catch it and bin it. So that means use a paper tissue and then put it in the bin.” Billy said “my Granny puts her tissues up her sleeve but I’ll tell her the that she needs to put them in the bin.”

“That’s very clever” Jo said.



The next thing they had to do was learn how to wash their hands properly. Belle said “I already know about this, my Mummy told me to sing the happy birthday song two times while I wash my hands.” “That’s right” said Jo, “well done Belle. Now we are all going to practice”. So, all of the children in the nursery washed their hands as often as possible but especially after coughing, sneezing, going to the toilet and before eating.



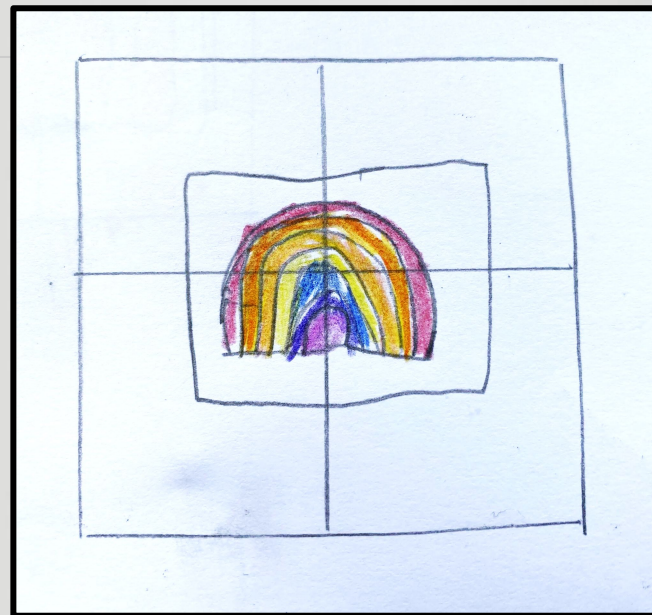
On Monday morning both Belle and Billy were excited to get up and go to nursery. However, there was some sad news. Nursery was going to be closed for a few weeks and they were all going to have to spend a lot more time indoors. "Oh no" they both said. "I will miss my friend" said Billy.



Belle's Mummy said, "everything is going to be alright. It is just going to be different for a while."

Belle's Mummy thought to herself, "why don't we put pictures in the window of rainbows and smiley faces, so Billy can see them?"

"That's a great idea!" replied Belle.



Billy's Daddy told Billy "you can still do all of your paintings and drawings, we can put them in a book so when you go back to nursery you can show them to Jo, and to Belle of course."

"Will I still get to see Granny?" Billy asked.

"Not for a little while" Mummy replied, "We are best to stay away from Granny to help to protect her from the virus. We can still talk to her every day on FaceTime though."





Billy and Belle felt much happier now they knew that they could still do lots of the things they enjoyed at nursery while they are at home.

“It’s going to be a little bit different for us over the next few weeks, Billy” said Mummy. “But we must do what we have to, to keep ourselves safe and well.”



Parents & Carers Page



Things to talk about with your child after sharing the story...

Where will they get tissues from if they need them and where will they put them after they've used them?

Which song are they going to sing when they wash their hands?

What would they like to do at home while they can't go to nursery?



Share the next chapters of the story with your child as they are released to see what Billy and Belle get up to in the following weeks.

In the meantime, the Early Years Team have put together a 'learning together at home' pack to support you with ideas of activities you can do with your child over the coming weeks. Click on the link for Northumberland Early Years Learning Together at Home:

[Week 1](#) and [Week 2](#)

