

Time for tea

Share this delightful story about making friends

Polly was feeling sad. She had just moved into a new house, far away from all of her friends. There were lots of new neighbours living beside her but she was too shy to talk to them. She could not even make a cup of tea to cheer herself up as she had dropped her kettle on the floor when she moved in and now it was broken.

Knock! Knock! Polly hurried to answer the door. It was the postman carrying a parcel.

How exciting! It was a while since Polly had a parcel to open. Who could it be from? It wasn't her birthday or Christmas – the time when parcels usually arrived.

Polly carried the parcel into the kitchen to open. Inside was a shiny new kettle. It was just what she wanted, but who could have sent it? No one knew that her old kettle was broken. Then she remembered her best friend Sukie. She had told her about the broken kettle on the phone a few days earlier. Maybe she had sent the parcel.

Just then, an envelope fluttered out of the parcel and on to the floor. She picked it up and opened it. Inside was a letter from Sukie!

It read: 'Dear Polly, I thought I would send you this new kettle so that you can make me a cup of tea when I come to visit you on Saturday. I can't wait to see you again and to meet some of your new friends. Love from Sukie xx.'

How kind of Sukie, thought Polly – but I don't have any friends. What shall I do? She decided to go for a walk to think about her problem.

Just as Polly was going down the path, someone came out of the house next door.

'Hello, I'm Tillie,' she smiled.

Polly began to feel happier straight away.

'Hello, I'm Polly, and I've just moved in. Would you like to come to tea on Saturday? My friend Sukie is coming. You can bring a friend too if you like.'

'I'll bring Alfie then,' she said. 'He is my best friend.'

Polly went down the road feeling very pleased with herself. Along the way she asked four more friendly neighbours to come to tea and they all said they would love to.

On Saturday, she put out cups and saucers for her guests, and a huge iced cake.

Knock! Knock! Polly answered the door. It was Sukie, closely followed by Tillie and Alfie, Nasreen, Lucy, Eleanor and Ted.

'Polly, put the kettle on', said Sukie. 'We'll all have tea.'

Soon they were all chatting and laughing over a cup of tea. Then another cup, and another, until it was time for everyone to go home.

'Sukie, take it off again. They've all gone away', said Polly, after the new friends had left.

From that day, Polly was never lonely again. Friends were always at her door and the first thing they said each time was... 'Polly, put the kettle on!'

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