

Beach Day (Part 1)

(Story words: books, build, castle)

On Sunday, Josh's family drove to the lake near their house for a day at the beach. Mom and Dad had been working all morning to pack everything they would need for the day: sunblock, water, snacks, and a big lunch. When they got to the beach, Mom and Dad put up a big umbrella to block the sun. They unfolded their beach chairs and started reading their books.

Josh's sister Gwen had invited her friend, Rachel. Gwen and Rachel took off to look at the tent where people were renting canoes.

Josh had not considered what he would do all day at the beach. He took off his sandals to walk in the sand. He looked for some flat rocks that had a good shape for skipping on top of the water. He skipped rocks for a while. He went back to see what his mom and dad were doing. They were still reading.

His brother Pete asked, "Will you help me build a sand castle?"

Pete was six and was always begging Josh to play with him. But he and Pete were in the same boat: bored.

"Okay," he said. "I'll help you for a while."