

Swimming for Sticks

(Story word: Aunt)

Aunt Jane has two dogs, Ben and Willa, who love to take a dip in the lake. When Aunt Jane and the kids take the dogs to the dock, the dogs will do more swimming if the kids toss sticks for the dogs to bring back.

Aunt Jane will ask the kids, “Will you find some sticks and toss them for the dogs?” She likes to see the dogs swim and have fun.

Willa is rude when it comes to swimming after sticks. Willa swims fast, so she will get to all the sticks before Ben.

When the kids toss a second stick close to Ben so that he can get one too, Willa swims over to Ben, drops her stick, and takes Ben’s stick away from him. The kids think that Ben’s eyes look sad when Willa takes his stick.

The kids tell Aunt Jane how unkind and selfish Willa is when it comes to Ben. Aunt Jane is not shocked. She

knows that Willa sees herself as the boss of Ben, but she will yell, “Oh, Willa! Can you be a good dog and let Ben have just one stick?”

Because Willa lets her stick drift away when she takes Ben’s stick, the kids have to hunt for more and more sticks to toss. Finding sticks that are a good size and shape for tossing can be quite a job.

Sometimes one of the lost sticks will drift back to the dock. The kids will jump in and swim to get it. Aunt Jane smiles. She is glad to see the kids jump in and swim.