**A Field Trip to Remember**

The fourth grade classes from Clarkson Elementary School were on a field trip.

This was the day they had been looking forward to for months. The excitement grew as

the bus drove into the Sea Land parking lot. Mrs. Garcia, one of the teachers, raised her

hand as the bus came to a stop. This was a signal for the students to be quiet.

Mrs. Garcia had some reminders before the students got off the bus. “It will be

very crowded here today. Stay with your chaperone at all times. Do not walk away from

your group for any reason,” she reminded them. Another teacher, Mr. Myers, asked if

anyone remembered what to do if they were separated from the group.

“I do!” answered Shelby. “Go into the closest shop and look for a person with a

Sea Land nametag. Tell them you are lost. They will know what to do.”

After a few more rules and reminders, everyone got off the bus. It was a hot day

in May. No one seemed to mind as they walked through the crowded park. The first stop

was at the Crazy Arctic Ride. After waiting in line for 15 minutes, everyone was buckled

in their seats and ready to go. The students loved the ride! The pretend helicopter took

them on a bumpy ride to the Arctic base station. After the ride, the groups walked to the

Penguin Exhibit. Everyone enjoyed cooling off. The air was chilly while they watched

over 200 penguins! The next stop was the Shark Tank. Here they saw sharks, eels,

barracudas, and other sea animals.

The students knew that the Whale Show was next on the agenda. They were

getting excited. The teachers noticed the long line of people waiting to get in. Mrs.

Garcia suggested that they eat lunch first. She told the groups to find a place to eat.

They would meet back at the Whale Show at 12:30 p.m.

Some of the groups went to the Smoky River Grill. They found tables outside

where they could all sit. Everyone had a quick lunch and restroom break. They headed

back to the show. Mrs. Rose’s group was one of the first to get in line at the entrance.

“Where is Katie?” she suddenly shouted. She realized that Katie was not with

the group. The other four girls in the group looked around, but they did not see their

classmate. When Mrs. Garcia arrived at the entrance, Mrs. Rose told her that Katie

was missing. They quickly found a Sea Land worker with a walkie-talkie in his hand.

They gave him Katie’s name. They also told him that she was wearing a blue Clarkson

Elementary School shirt. He sent out an urgent message that she was lost.

The man radioed the information to all the workers in the park. A voice came back

saying, “We have her at the Dolphin Store. Give me your location and we’ll bring her

back to you.”

Everyone was very relieved when Katie got back. Katie explained that she lost the

group when they were walking through a huge crowd of people. Instead of trying to find

her way alone, she stepped into the closest shop to ask for help.

“I’m so proud of you for remembering what to do!” said Mrs. Rose with relief in her

voice. “Now we can all enjoy the Whale Show!”

The children begged their teachers to let them sit in the “splash zone” so they

could get wet during the show. The whales thrilled everyone with their wonderful tricks.

At the end of the show, they gave them their wish by splashing water on them with their

huge tails!

At the end of the day, everyone was tired and damp. They boarded the buses

for the trip back to the school. Mrs. Garcia was checking the students’ names on a list.

When she was at the middle of the bus, Katie stopped her.

“Thank you for teaching us what to do if we got lost today. I’m sorry it happened,

but happy that you found me,” Katie said as she gave her teacher a hug. “This is a field

trip I’ll remember for a long time!”

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