



Story sheet

Harold's day of secrets and surprises

Harold woke up feeling very excited. Today was the day he was going to the new theme park with his best friends Derek and Kiki. Derek's mum had told him that she had arranged it as a special treat for Derek's birthday but that Harold was not to tell him because he didn't know anything about it.

[Was that a secret or surprise?]

[How would Harold feel keeping that surprise a secret?]

[Why might he be tempted to tell Derek? Sometimes it is hard to keep things a surprise because we are just so excited about something.]

[How do you think Derek will feel when he finds out he's going to the theme park with his best friends?]

Derek's mum arrived to pick him up. Derek and Kiki were already in the car looking very excited.

'I can't believe you knew about this all along but you didn't tell me,' exclaimed Derek with a big smile on his face.

[How do you think Harold would have felt if he had told Derek?

How would Derek have felt?]

[Is it OK to spoil a surprise?]

In no time at all they had arrived at the theme park, bought their tickets and entered the park.

'Where do you want to go first?' Derek's mum asked.

Derek looked up at the massive rollercoaster that was near the entrance to the park. 'I love rollercoasters,' he said, 'Can we all go on that first?'

Harold's face fell. He was scared of heights (which is unusual for a giraffe!) and really didn't like going on big rollercoasters. He didn't want to tell Kiki and Derek...

[Why do you think he didn't want to tell them?]

...in case they laughed at him or thought he was a scaredy cat.

[What do you think Harold should do?]



When Derek and Kiki went to see how big the queue was Harold stayed by Derek's mum. 'Can I tell you something?' he said, 'I don't really like heights but I don't want to let Derek and Kiki know in case they tease me about it.'

'Oh Harold,' said Derek's mum, 'I'm so glad you told me. If you're not comfortable going on the rollercoaster then you don't have to. I'll just tell them that you're coming to the café with me so that we can both have a drink while they go on the ride. Don't worry, Harold, I'll sort it.'

So Derek and Kiki went on the rollercoaster while Harold and Derek's mum went and had an orange juice at the café.

When the ride had finished they carried on walking through the theme park. Derek and his mum went ahead. Suddenly Kiki whispered, 'Harold, I've got some sweets in my bag that I brought from home but don't tell anyone because my mum and dad don't know that I took them from the kitchen cupboard.'

[Should Kiki have taken the sweets without asking? Why not?]

[Why was she whispering to Harold and asking him not to tell anyone?]

[How do you think that made Harold feel?]

'Kiki!' exclaimed Harold, 'You know you're not supposed to take things without asking.'

[What do you think Harold should do? Why is that a difficult situation for Harold?]

Harold thought long and hard. In the end he said, 'Kiki, I don't want to tell someone and get you into trouble but I really think you shouldn't have taken those sweets without asking. I tell you what - promise me you'll put them back when we get home. If I find out that you ate them instead I will have to tell my parents and they might talk to your parents about it'.

[Do you think that was the best thing for Harold to do? Could he have done something else?]

Kiki felt really guilty. She realised that she shouldn't have taken the sweets and that she had put Harold in a difficult situation. She put the sweets back in the bag and promised that she would put them back as soon as she got home.

They ran and caught up with Derek and his mum. 'This is the best day out ever' beamed Derek, 'What a brilliant surprise! I'm so glad you didn't spoil it for me. You really are the best friends ever!'