

Apologizing

It was a beautiful summer day and the sun was shining! Mum had promised Princess Penny that she would take her to the park if the weather was good ... "and good it is" smiled Princess Penny as she looked out of her window.

After breakfast they hurried to the park. Penny wanted to get her favourite spot under a huge tree. She laid the blanket out for Mum who took her book out and got comfortable very quickly. "Aahhh," she sighed, "what a good idea this was."

Penny skipped off to play on the playground equipment. Just as she was hanging upside down by just her legs, a little girl walked right under her and pulled her arm really hard. Princess Penny's legs gave way and she fell onto the sand, right on her back. She felt that she could not even breath.

The little girl just ran off as if nothing had happened but luckily the little girl's mother was watching and ran over to Penny, shortly followed by her own Mum. "Are you okay?" they called together. "Ummm, yes, I think so" said Penny bravely. She wanted to cry but managed to keep her tears back, "I'll be okay". The little girl's mum stood up with her arms on her hips scanning the area for her daughter, "Where is that little terror?" she mumbled. "Ah, there she is." and off she stormed only to return a few seconds later dragging a little girl behind her. "WHAT DO YOU SAY?" she said bending down to the little girl's level ... "Sorry" she said far too quickly and turned and ran back to the spot she was. This apology did NOT make Penny feel better AT ALL !! In fact it make her feel quite cross and as she limped back to the blanket she mumbled something about "Not sorry at all that's for sure".

After a few minutes and a little drink, Princess Penny felt better and wandered, more slowly this time, back to the park. She sat on the swing eyeing the little girl, who seemed to want to get closer. "You won't catch me again!" thought Penny, "I am watching you." her eyes warned.

The little girl started to look terribly sad and hung her head. Her lips were trembling and it seemed she was going to cry. Penny's heart softened and she jumped off the swing and went to kneel before the little girl. "What's the matter?" Penny asked and the biggest blue eyes swimming in tears looked up at her and said "I did not mean to hurt you. For a moment I thought we were in the circus and you would catch me by my arms. I did not think about what I was doing and should have warned you first. I am so sorry."

"Oh wow" said Penny "I never thought of that game ... what a wonderful imagination you have. But thank you for saying you are sorry and meaning it ... it makes me feel much, much better and I think you and I are going to be friends! Let's go and swing together while we hold hands."

Mum was surprised as she peeked over her book to see Penny playing with the little girl and asked Princess Penny what had happened when she ran over for another sip of her drink. "Oh she was really sorry for hurting me and it was not on purpose. She apologised and we decided to be friends!" shouted Penny as she headed back to the swing and her new friend.

"That's my girl" said proud Mum!.