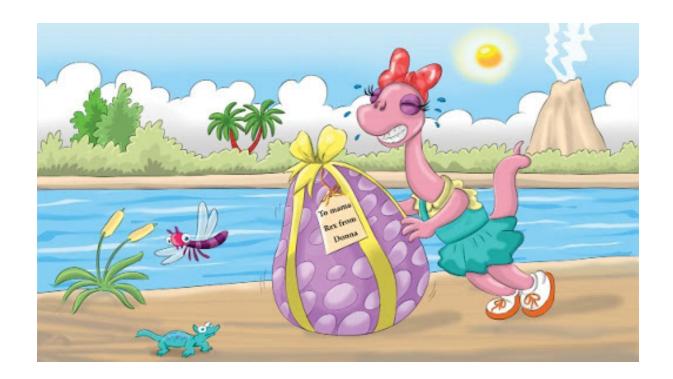


A Gift For Mom





Today is Mama's birthday. Donna prepared a wonderful gift for her all by herself. Then she wrapped it with colorful paper. It looked wonderful.



Donna tried pushing the gift back to her house. She pushed and she pushed, but it wouldn't move. It was as heavy as a fat mammoth!



Donna asked her friend Max Muscles for help. Max pushed the gift as hard as he could. But it still did not move!



Max and Donna tried pushing the gift together. And then . . .



The gift finally moved! The friends yelled, "Hip hip hooray!"



Donna and Max continued to push and push the gift until they reached a slope of a hill.



Max said, "Huff huff, I'm so tired I can't do this anymore."



Donna thanked him for his help. Then she ran to Mr. Pepper the truck man to ask him for help.



Mr. Pepper came with his truck. Donna got a strong rope and tied the gift to the truck. Then she jumped into the seat next to Mr. Pepper.



Mr. Pepper drove the truck and the truck pulled the gift behind. They began to climb the hill. But suddenly . . .



The truck stopped, then the gift stopped. Mr. Pepper said, "I'm sorry my dear friend . . . I ran out of fuel."



Donna thanked her friend Mr. Pepper and got out of the truck. She untied the gift. But then the gift rolled and rolled to the bottom of the hill!



Donna chased after the gift, yelling, "My mom's gift is getting away!"

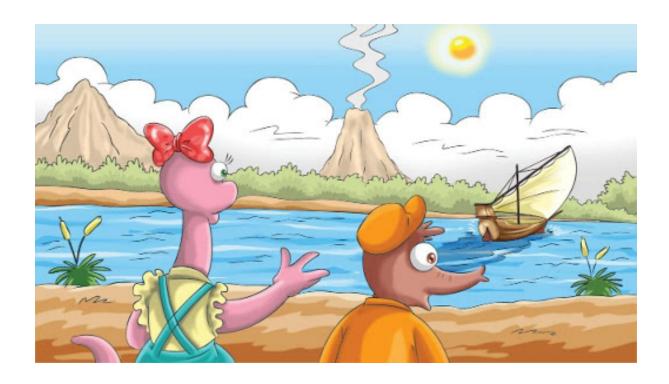


The gift rolled faster and faster until it reached the bottom of the hill. But the gift didn't stop there. It kept rolling towards the river.



It rolled right to the edge of the river and bounced onto a sailboat.

Donna waved her arms and called to the boat's owners. "Please stop, you've got my mom's gift with you!"



But no one heard Donna, and the boat sailed away in the strong wind.



Donna cried when the boat faded out of sight. She whispered, "What will I give Mom for her birthday now?"



She slowly walked home and stood in front of the door. She didn't know what to do. Then, all of a sudden . . .



Mama opened the door. She was holding the gift in her hands!

"Where did you find that gift?" Donna asked.



Mama told Donna that just a few minutes ago she had seen her name on a gift in a boat that was floating past her house. She grabbed it quickly before the boat disappeared down the river.



Mama said, "Let's open this beautiful gift."

Donna's heart fluttered. Would her mama like it?



"I've always wanted a basket to carry vegetables from the woods."



The End

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Original Story

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