

Lila - Family Story Set



Listening and sharing feelings

2 stories | 2 coloring pages | 2 seek-and-find activities. Ages 4-8: read together; ages 9-12: create alternative endings.

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



Lila knew the sounds of home: the kettle's whisper, the door's click and the curtain brushing the window. One evening Mum came home and Lila began talking. 'I heard three birds today, and the neighbor's cat!' Mum smiled, but looked a little tired.

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



'I have something to tell you about today too,' Mum said. Lila guessed what it might be, then guessed again. Mum's sentence remained unfinished. Lila touched those big ears. They heard so many sounds, but were they really listening to Mum?

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



Lila straightened the cushion nearby. 'We could sit here if you like.' Mum sat down, and this time Lila waited. Mum explained that a difficult task had taken longer than expected. Lila did not rush to solve it. 'You must feel very tired,' Lila said.

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



Mum nodded. 'It helped to have you listen.' Lila asked, 'Would you like quiet now, or would you like me to sit beside you?' Mum wanted company. Lila moved closer. Being helpful did not always require a big idea or an answer.

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



They listened to rain at the window. Then Mum asked about Lila's three birds. As Lila described them, Mum waited for the story to finish. Their conversation traveled back and forth like a ball. Passing it mattered just as much as holding it.

Lila and the Secret of a Quiet Ear



Before bed, Lila held a seashell to one ear. Hearing sounds and listening to someone were different things. Big ears needed a little patience too. How do you show someone you are listening? Sometimes simply waiting is a lovely place to begin.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



Lila and the family made a little puppet stage. The adults opened the front of a box, and Lila drew paper birds and trees. Their story began with a bird searching for a missing song. Nobody knew the ending yet. Lila found that exciting.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



Dad wanted the bird to find its song on a high hill. Lila wanted it inside a tree. They both began explaining at once, while the paper bird waited on the table. Mum suggested hearing each idea all the way through. Lila paused and looked at Dad.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



Dad described wind singing on the hill. Lila liked that. Then Lila explained how a hollow in the tree could echo the bird's voice. 'Both places make interesting sounds,' Mum said. Slowly the two ideas began sitting side by side in Lila's imagination.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



‘The bird could visit the hill first,’ Lila suggested. ‘The wind could show the way to the tree!’ Dad smiled. ‘And the tree could help the bird hear its own voice.’ One idea no longer had to erase the other. Both became stops on the journey.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



They took turns moving the puppets. The bird visited the hill, listened to the wind and flew to the tree. Hearing its own song, it realized the song was not lost. Lila bowed. 'I would not have made this story alone.' The family applauded.

Lila and the Unfinished Story



They kept the stage ready for another day. Lila placed the bird puppet beside the tree. Two different ideas rested together. Now add one of your own: if you made a third ending for the bird searching for its song, where would the journey go?

Lila - Coloring 1



Choose your own colors. When you finish, tell your family what is happening in your picture.

Lila - Coloring 2



Choose your own colors. When you finish, tell your family what is happening in your picture.

Surprises in the Listening Corner



Find: Star, Key, Spoon, Striped sock, Fish shape, Cup

Hidden Objects at the Puppet Stage



Find: Star, Key, Spoon, Striped sock, Fish shape, Cup

Keep Exploring Together

Lila has big ears and a teal dress with a sunflower pocket. Lila is curious about sounds and discovers that listening can mean staying quiet, asking a question, or simply being there.

Listen quietly to your surroundings for one minute. Take turns describing a sound. Wait until the other person finishes, then ask one curious question.

How could you show someone that you are listening to their story?

What would happen in a third ending you invent for this story?

Suggested use: one story, one activity and a short conversation each time. Follow the child's interest; finishing is optional. These activities are not developmental tests or diagnostic tools.