

Mrs Penguins Perfect Palace

Once upon a time, there was a family of penguins who lived amongst the rubble and bricks of an abandoned seaside.

"I wish I had a HOUSE!" said Mrs Penguin.

"I don't like living in rubbish."

"Well", said Mr Penguin, "in that case, let's build one - in fact, let's build a PALACE!"

So the Penguin family set to work, gathering the bits and pieces they would need, and they decided to build their house from the sand on the beach.



"The sand is making me all itchy!" grumbled Susie.

"These measurements are wrong - this side is too short!" said Bertie.

"I'm hungry, is it lunchtime yet?" asked George.

Mrs Penguin sighed. She was running around doing all of the work and the children weren't being much help at all. At last, their sand castle home was finished, but before they could even step inside, the tide came in and washed it clean away.



"We'll try again," said Mr Penguin.
"This time we shall make it from stone - and it shall be a mansion!"



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Once again the Penguin family set to work.



"The stones are too heavy!" grumbled Susie.

"These measurements are wrong - this stone is too round to fit!" said Bertie.

"I'm still hungry, can I have some crisps please?" asked George.

At last, the stone mansion was complete...until a big gust of wind came along and blew it all over, leaving the Penguin family to run away from the falling pebbles.

Mrs Penguin was cross. "I'm not doing any more work, I'm tired and I've had enough!" she cried.

"We'll try again!" said Mr Penguin.

"I can't think of anything - it's too difficult!" grumbled Susie.

"We don't have any cement!" said Bertie, "you can't build a house without cement."

"I'm starving!!!" exclaimed George.

Mrs Penguin sighed; she was never going to get her house.

"Look at all this mess!" she said looking around at all the bits of wood, plastic and leftover nets on the beach. Then suddenly she had a wonderful idea!

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"Bertie, can you fetch some wood?" she asked.
"Susie, can you collect all the nets?"



"George - here, have a biscuit and bring me all the plastic you can find."
Then she turned to Mr Penguin and said determinedly, "Pass me the hammer! Let's try one last time."

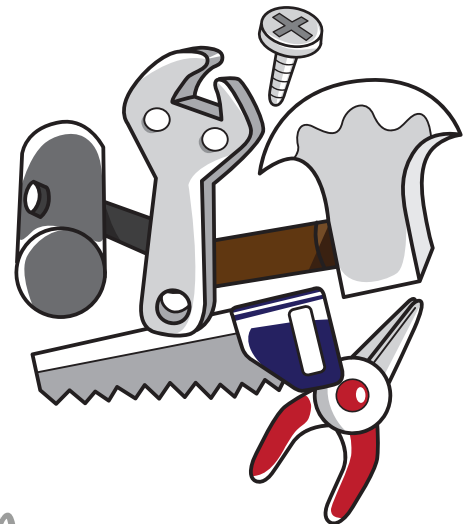
Mr Penguin smiled and scurried off to fetch the hammer and the rest of his tools.

All day they worked and worked...

"I'm tired!" grumbled Susie.
"Keep working!" said Mrs Penguin.
"These measurements are wrong - and this wood is too square!" said Bertie.
"Keep working!" said Mrs Penguin.
"I'm sooo hungry!" cried George.
"Keep working!" said Mrs Penguin.

Mr and Mrs Penguin looked at one another.
"It's going to be wonderful", said Mr Penguin.
"You're doing a great job! Let's keep going." Mrs Penguin replied.

So they worked and worked, and worked some more, and at last the house was finished.





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They had used all of the things they could find amongst the rubble and rubbish, and made a strong, secure house that no amount of water or wind could wash or blow away. As they stepped through the door and the children ran excitedly to their new rooms, Mr Penguin hugged his wife and said, "welcome to your palace".

"Thank you, it really is perfect" she replied.

And they all lived happily ever after in their new home.

