

LET'S GO HOME

This book's pointers

When faced with a child refusing to go home because they want to play longer, a parent can often become irritated and end up scolding the child. Doesn't this happen to you?

This story shows that when an effort is made to understand the child's feelings and a compromise is made, the parent and child can go home happily.



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In the autumn it gets dark really early in the afternoon.

It is getting dark as Mai is playing very happily in the sandbox at the kindergarten playground. But her mother is getting a little irritated as she wants to go home to get ready for dinner.

It always ends up being a fight because Mai loves to play with the sand so much that she always tries to put off going home.

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"Mai, let's go home. Let's go home and cook dinner. You've had enough for today! Or else I will leave you here by yourself!" her mother yells at her, from the school entrance gate.

"Mum, you can go ahead.

I want to play a little bit longer"

Mai says, as she makes a ball with the sand.

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At last, Mai's mother comes to the sandbox.

"What are you talking about?! Some scary man will kidnap you! I am not going to be responsible for that! Hurry up! Come on!"

she tells Mai, pulling her arm.

"No! No!

I'm going to make more balls!

I'm not leaving yet!

Mum, go away!"

Mai ends up lying down in the sandbox.

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Thanks to Mai's class teacher, Ms.Nakako, the two leave the kindergarten, both quite upset.

It has gotten really dark.

This happens a lot doesn't it?

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How about trying it this way?

In the autumn it gets dark really early in the afternoon.

Mai loves to play in the sand and never wants to go home, so she and her mother always end up fighting.

Mai's mother has firmly decided that today is going to be the day that they go home together happily.

Therefore she is going to try the method she has learnt from the 'How to praise' picture book.

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When Mai's mother arrives at the kindergarten, Mai is really into playing with the sand. Mai's friends are already getting ready to go home.

Mai's mother takes a deep breath, and puts a smile on her face.

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She comes close to Mai and sits down next to her.

"Mai, are you making ball?
Mum loves balls too. Can I have some?"

Mai's mother looks directly at her and talks gently.

"Sure you can!
I'll make you some delicious balls!
How many would you like to have?"

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Now the chance has arrived for Mai's mother.

"Well, let's see; it is getting close to dinner time, so I'll have five."

Mai happily begins to make the balls out of the sand,.....one.....two.....,

It seems as if it will be totally dark by the time she makes 5 balls!

Mai's mother again takes a deep breath, and makes a big smile.
"OK. Mum will help you."

Mai's mother is trying to make it easy for Mai to understand when it is time to stop.

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Finally they have made the 5 balls.

Mai's mother is feeling desperate to hurry things up.

But she makes the effort to pretend to enjoy eating up all the balls.

"Wow! That was really good. Thank you. Now why don't I make a delicious dinner for you? Let's go home!"

"OK! Let's go home!" says Mai, smiling.

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The two hold hands and go through the kindergarten gate singing songs together.

Mai's mother is smiling, thinking [Yes! I succeeded!].

In the sky, which is slightly dark, a full moon is smiling.

When Mai's mother makes the effort to appreciate Mai's feelings, it all goes well.