

A Christmas Surprise

Last Christmas Eve, Emma and her little brother, Jack, stayed up late. They waited for Santa Claus, but their parents told them to go to bed. The children quietly sneaked downstairs to the living room. The tree sparkled with colorful lights, and stockings hung above the fireplace.

Suddenly, they heard a noise. Emma whispered, "Do you think it's Santa?" They hid behind the sofa and peeked out. A big man in a red suit stepped into the room, carrying a sack full of presents. It was Santa Claus! Santa placed gifts under the tree and filled the stockings with candies and toys. Jack accidentally sneezed, and Santa turned around. "Oh, who's there?" Santa asked with a kind smile. Emma and Jack stood up nervously.

Santa laughed softly. "You should be in bed," he said. But he gave them each a candy cane and promised to visit again next year. Then, with a wink, he disappeared up the chimney.

The next morning, Emma and Jack woke up early to open their presents. They told their parents about their adventure, but their parents just smiled and said, "It must have been a dream." Emma and Jack knew it wasn't a dream. It was the best Christmas surprise ever.

Comprehension Exercises

1) True or False:

- a) Emma and Jack went to bed early on Christmas Eve. _____
- b) Santa Claus filled the stockings with candies and toys. _____
- c) Jack and Emma hid under the table. _____
- d) Their parents believed their story about meeting Santa. _____

2) Answer the Questions:

- a) Where did Emma and Jack hide when Santa came into the room?

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- b) What did Santa give to Emma and Jack when he saw them?

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- c) How did Santa leave the house?

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- d) Why did their parents think it was a dream?

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3) Fill in the blanks with the words from the text and then translate the sentences into Italian.

a) The tree _____ with colorful lights.

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b) Santa placed _____ under the tree.

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c) Jack accidentally _____, and Santa turned around.

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d) Santa promised to visit _____ next year.

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4) Grammar exercise:

A) Sottolinea in verde i verbi regolari al past simple e in rosso i verbi irregolari, poi completa la tabella come negli esempi.

| REGULAR VERBS | | | IRREGULAR VERBS | | |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|
| PAST SIMPLE | BASE FORM | TRANSLATION | PAST SIMPLE | BASE FORM | TRANSLATION |
| 0) Stayed | Stay | <i>Restare</i> | 0) Told | Tell | <i>Dire</i> |
| 1) | | | 1) | | |
| 2) | | | 2) | | |
| 3) | | | 3) | | |
| 4) | | | 4) | | |
| 5) | | | 5) | | |
| 6) | | | 6) | | |
| 7) | | | 7) | | |
| 8) | | | 8) | | |
| 9) | | | 9) | | |
| 10) | | | | | |
| 11) | | | | | |
| 12) | | | | | |
| 13) | | | | | |
| 14) | | | | | |
| 15) | | | | | |

