Basil and the Bent Reflection

A spoon shows a very curious face.



AGES 4-7 | AN ORIGINAL MIMOMANGO STORY



Basil peered into a clean, shiny spoon. A tiny upside-down bear looked back. He turned his own head sideways. The tiny bear did something equally peculiar.



"There is another bear in here," he joked. Gran brought a flat mirror. In that one, Basil's face looked much more familiar. He compared the two reflections.





The spoon curved inwards on one side and outwards on the other. Basil turned it over. His face changed size and shape again. The spoon was quite a performer.



Gran explained that curved shiny surfaces reflect light differently from flat ones. Basil did not understand all of that yet, but he could see that the shape mattered.



He held the spoon closer, then further away. Gran stayed beside him. The reflection changed as the distance changed. Basil made a different surprised face for every version.



They drew three spoons on paper. In the first, Basil sketched a long face. In the second, a tiny face. In the third, he drew the upside-down bear.



"Did your real face change?" Gran asked. Basil touched his nose. Still there, still the same. The reflection could look strange without changing the bear doing the looking.



They tried the outside of a clean metal bowl. Basil's reflection stretched across it. Gran's face appeared beside his, curved around the bowl's broad shiny side.



Basil wanted to show a friend. He put the spoon on a tray with the flat mirror. "Compare these," he said. "My face isn't really doing all those things."



His friend laughed at the tiny upside-down reflection. Then they made slow faces and watched carefully. They could predict some changes now, though others still surprised them.



Afterwards, Gran washed the spoon and put the mirror away safely. Basil kept the drawings. His favourite showed a very long nose above a very small chin.



At bedtime, he saw his ordinary face in the bathroom mirror. "Good evening, familiar bear," he said. The bear smiled back, with exactly the nose he expected.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

What changed when Basil turned the spoon over?

How did he know his real face had stayed the same?

Choose a favourite moment and draw what happened next.

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