Edda Learns a Name

Asking again can be a kind thing.



AGES 4-7 | AN ORIGINAL MIMOMANGO STORY



At the drawing club, a new rabbit put a green pencil beside Edda's. "I'm Zanele," she said. Edda smiled, but the name slipped away before she could catch it.



Edda wanted to ask for the green pencil. "Could you pass it, um..." Her cheeks grew warm. She pointed instead. Zanele passed the pencil and began drawing.



Edda whispered the name to herself. Was the middle bit long or short? She worried that asking again would make Zanele think she had not listened.



The club leader stopped by. "I sometimes need to hear a name more than once," she said. "The person whose name it is can help us."



Edda put down her pencil. "Could you tell me your name again? I want to say it the way you do." Zanele looked up and smiled.



She said it slowly, then at her usual speed. Edda listened to the whole name. She tried it once. "Like that?" Zanele helped with the middle sound.



They wrote their names on two folded cards. Edda decorated hers with a carrot. Zanele drew a tiny green planet. Neither picture had to match the letters.



Across the table, someone called Zanele "Zee". Edda glanced at her friend. "Do you like that name too?" Zanele shook her head. "I like Zanele."



"Zanele," Edda said, passing back the green pencil. This time the name felt less slippery. It belonged to the rabbit drawing a planet beside her.



When they tidied away, Zanele asked how to spell Edda. "Two d's," Edda explained. They made the two letters look like neighbours with matching round doors.



At the next club meeting, Edda saw the green pencil first. She lifted her paw. "Hello, Zanele!" Her friend waved from the big drawing table.



Edda sat down beside her. There would be many things to learn about a new friend. Today, she knew how to begin: with her friend's own name.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

What made asking difficult for Edda?

How could you help someone learn your name?

Choose a favourite moment and draw what happened next.

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