Tansy and the Berry Mix-Up

A story about asking first



MimoMango
Little Adventures. A Kinder Tomorrow.



Tansy helped Aunt Lila pack a picnic basket. There were sandwiches, apples, and berry jam. Tansy tied a blue ribbon around the handle to finish.



At the garden gate, their neighbour stopped to chat. He carried a willow basket too, covered with a berry-patterned cloth just like theirs. Brin put both baskets on the bench.



After the neighbour left, Tansy lifted a basket and hurried towards the picnic lawn. Brin followed with the blanket. They could already hear Aunt Lila calling them to lunch.



Tansy pulled back the cloth. Inside were folded napkins, two wooden spoons, and a small teapot. No sandwiches. No apples. And definitely no little pot of berry jam.



"Someone took our food!" Brin cried. Tansy felt cross for a moment. Then she noticed the handle. There was no blue ribbon. She remembered the two baskets at the gate.



"Maybe we picked up the wrong one," she said. Aunt Lila nodded. "Let's check before we decide what happened." They covered the basket and walked back along the garden path.



Their neighbour was coming towards them, carrying the other basket. The blue ribbon bounced. "I think I have your lunch," he said with a puzzled smile.



Tansy showed him the teapot. "And we have your things!" Everyone laughed with relief. Brin looked down at his feet. "I thought somebody had taken the food on purpose."



"It was an easy mix-up," said the neighbour. "These baskets look like twins." They checked inside together before swapping them back. Tansy made sure the jam pot was still closed.



Back on the picnic lawn, Tansy spread the sandwiches on a plate. Brin helped arrange the apples. The food had been on a small adventure, but lunch was ready now.



Their neighbour settled beside Aunt Lila and poured from his teapot. He shared his extra napkins, which turned out to be exactly what their sticky fingers needed after the jam.



Tansy tied the blue ribbon into a bigger bow. "Next time, we look before we lift," she said. Brin nodded. "And ask before we guess." Then they passed the sandwiches around.



The end

What clue helped Tansy solve the mix-up?

What could you ask before making a guess?

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An original MimoMango story. First edition, 2026.
Story and illustrations created with AI assistance.
Designed for reading together, ages 4-7.