The Fox's Reversible Sign

A shop has two useful messages.

A short story to enjoy together



Read slowly. Pause to enjoy the pictures and the words.

The Fox's Reversible Sign

READ TOGETHER

Fox made a sign for her pretend shop. On one side, she drew an open door. On the other, a closed door. She hung it from a broad paper loop above the counter.

When she was ready to play, she turned the open-door picture outwards. Her brother arrived to buy three pretend apples. Fox counted them into his paper bag and smiled.

After a while, she needed a break. She turned the sign around and sat down with her water. Her brother came back. "But I need a pretend pear," he said.

"The shop is closed for a break," Fox explained. "I can play again after I rest." Her brother looked at the closed-door picture. It said the same thing without an argument.

The Fox's Reversible Sign

READ TOGETHER

He used the waiting time to make pretend coins. Fox finished her drink and stretched. When she was ready, she turned the sign to the open side herself.

The shop began again. Her brother bought a pear with one of his new coins. The pause had not ruined the game. It had given both players something they needed.

At tidy-up, Fox left the closed-door side facing out. Tomorrow she could turn it again. A good sign, she decided, could welcome people in and also help them know when to wait.

LET'S TALK

How did the sign help Fox ask for a break?

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