

Princess Vicky's picnic: Roz Nugent

Princess Vicky sat under the trees in the beautiful garden of the castle where she lived.

She was sad because her cousin Ola couldn't play today and she was all alone. She built a train with her lego, put lots of stickers in her book and drew some pictures. But still she was unhappy.

Suddenly, the leaves rustled and down hopped Kenny Koala.

'You look very sad Princess Vicky,' said Kenny.

'Oh! I am,' she said. 'Ola can't come so I've no one to play with.'

'I have an idea,' said Kenny Koala. 'Let's have a picnic. I will find Kathy Kangaroo, Willy Wombat and Cocky Cockatoo.'

'That's wonderful,' said Princess Vicky, clapping her hands in delight.

'You fetch cups and plates from your playroom,' said Kenny. 'and I'll ask the others to bring food.'

Soon Princess Vicky was back, carrying brightly coloured cups and plates which she arranged on the rug.

'Hello,' said a voice. 'We're coming to your picnic.' Kathy Kangaroo with baby Joey peering from her pouch hopped into the garden.

She had a basket on her arm. She put it on the rug and started to unpack. There was some cheese and salami, some grapes and chocolate biscuits.

'Get out of my pouch, Joey,' said Kathy, 'so I can find the bottle of water.'

Look here comes Willy Wombat,' said Joey jumping with excitement.

'Phew,' said Willy sitting down to get his breathe. 'I've brought apples, strawberries and bananas. Get them out of my backpack Princess Vicky.'

Then in a flutter of wings Cocky Cockatoo flew onto the rug with a bag in his beak.

'Your Grandma has sent raspberries from her garden,' said Cocky as Princess Vicky danced up and down.

Everything was ready so they sat down and ate and drank every little bit.

Afterwards they played Eye Spy until Princess Vicky's Daddy came to say it was time to go back to the castle.

Princess Vicky waved goodbye to her friends and held her father's hand.

'I've had a lovely afternoon,' she said. 'I'm not lonely any more.'