

The Boy and the Little Seal



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On a bright Saturday morning, the boy pulled on his yellow raincoat and red rubber boots. He grabbed his canvas satchel and ran down to the beach near his home. The ocean rolled in with a soft, hushing sound, and the sand sparkled like sugar. He loved exploring the shore, looking for shells and watching the waves. Today, something special was waiting for him.



As he walked past the dunes, he noticed a small grey shape on the sand. He crept closer and saw a little seal pup, no bigger than his arm. Its spotted fur was glossy and wet, and its big dark eyes blinked sleepily. The seal didn't move; it just rested quietly on the cool sand. The boy whispered, "Hello, little one. Are you okay?"



The boy remembered what Grandpa Tom had told him: seals sometimes come onto the beach to rest and warm up. They need quiet, safe places to regain their strength. The boy looked around. The beach was empty for now, but soon visitors would arrive. He worried that someone might get too close and scare the little seal. He decided to stay and watch over it.



Just then, his best friend Maya came running down the beach. She wore her green hoodie and carried her red backpack full of art supplies. "What did you find?" she asked, then gasped when she saw the seal. "Oh, it's so cute!" The boy explained that the seal needed space and quiet. Maya nodded. "We should tell everyone to keep their distance," she said.



The boy and Maya sat a little way from the seal, watching people arrive. A family with a barking dog walked by, and the seal lifted its head, startled. The boy stood up and waved his arms. "Please keep back!" he called. "The seal is resting!" The family nodded and moved away. But more people came, and the boy knew they needed a better plan.



Maya unzipped her red backpack. "I have paints, paper, and markers," she said. "Let's make signs!" The boy's eyes lit up. They found some driftwood and flat stones to hold the signs down. Maya painted big, bold letters: "SEAL RESTING - PLEASE KEEP QUIET." The boy drew a picture of the little seal with its big dark eyes.



They made more signs: "GIVE SEALS SPACE," "PROTECT OUR BEACH," and "THANK YOU FOR BEING KIND." Each sign was colorful and clear. The boy's freckled face beamed with pride. "These will help everyone understand," he said. They placed the signs in a wide circle around the seal, far enough away so people would stop before getting too close.



Just then, Grandpa Tom came walking down the beach in his straw hat and navy sweater. He smiled when he saw the signs. "Well done, young ones," he said. "Seals need protected resting places. You're doing a good thing." He told them that seals often return to the same beach to rest, so it's important to keep it safe and quiet.



More visitors arrived, and they read the signs. They smiled and nodded, keeping their voices low. Some took photos from a distance. The little seal closed its eyes and rested peacefully. The boy felt happy. His friend Maya gave him a high five. "We did it!" she whispered. The beach was calm, and the seal was safe.



The boy noticed that some people still didn't see the signs. He had an idea. "Let's make a visitor awareness campaign," he said. "We can tell everyone about the seal and how to protect it." Maya agreed. They made small flyers and handed them to people, explaining why the seal needed space. People listened and promised to help.



The sun began to set, painting the sky in pink and gold. The little seal stirred and lifted its head. It looked at the boy with its big dark eyes, as if to say thank you. Then it slowly wiggled toward the water. The boy and Maya cheered softly as the seal slipped into the waves and swam away. It was safe and happy.



Grandpa Tom put a hand on the boy's shoulder. "You did a wonderful thing today," he said. "You protected a little seal and taught others to care for our beach." The boy felt proud. He knew that caring for coastal wildlife means giving animals their space and being good friends to the ocean.



The next day, the boy and Maya made more signs and put them up along the beach. They even started a small club called "Friends of the Seals." Other kids joined, and they promised to keep the beach clean and quiet for resting seals. The boy's yellow raincoat flapped in the wind as he hammered a sign into the sand.



Weeks later, the boy saw another seal resting on the beach. This time, people kept their distance and read the signs. The seal slept peacefully, and the boy smiled. He knew that his campaign was working. The beach was a safer place for seals and for everyone who loved the ocean.



The boy often thought about the little seal. He hoped it was swimming happily in the deep blue sea. He felt glad that he had helped. With his friends and Grandpa Tom, he continued to protect the beach. Every time he saw a seal, he remembered that quiet, safe places are important for all creatures.



And so, the boy learned that even a small person can make a big difference. By making signs and spreading the word, he helped protect a little seal and its home. The ocean is a friend to us all, and we can be good friends to the ocean, too. The boy smiled, ready for the next adventure on the shore.