



### Chapter 3 Three Trips

"Get up, Dan!" calls Mom. "Hop out of bed, Sam!" she says. "This is the day of the big trip."

Dan gets out of bed. He drags himself to the closet. He looks for pants and a top. All of a

sudden it hits him. "Wow, today is the day of the big trip," he says to himself.

He runs back to Sam's bed. "Get up, Sam! Get up!" he yells. "This is the day of the big trip!"

Sam stretches and kicks off the blanket. "Huh?" he says.

Dan grabs Sam's leg. "Get up, Sam, today we go on the Florida trip in the RV."

Suddenly Sam sits up in bed. "Yes, yes!" he says, "Wow! Let's go!" he yells.

Dan tosses a canvas bag onto Sam's bed. "Let's get packed," he says.

Dan and Sam pack pants, tops, and socks. They drop in sandals, caps, and a brush. Dan grabs comics from a shelf and drops them in his bag. Sam pats his old soft stuffed rabbit. He hugs it, then drops it into his bag. They put in Nintendos. Dan packs the camera he got from Uncle Ben and adds some film. He has a pen and pad in his jacket pocket. He plans to jot

down some facts on this trip.

Mom calls, "Are you all packed?"

"Yes," say Dan and Sam. "We are just getting dressed." They pull on pants and tank tops, and slip on their sandals. They pull up the blankets on the beds, shut and lock the windows, and then drag the canvas bags into the kitchen.

"I plan to drop off Dad at the RV lot," says Mom. "You all grab some breakfast. When you finish breakfast, rinse off the dishes in the sink and put them on the shelf. I don't want to come back to a mess. I will be back in a flash."

Dan and Mom go to get the RV. Dan and Sam eat some fresh buns and bran muffins and drink a tall glass of milk. They do the dishes and put them in the cabinet. They pull the plug on the TV and lock the windows. The house is all set for the family trip to Florida.

Dan says, "I think we are all set. When Dad and Mom get back, we can just hop in that RV and go."

Just then there is a thump, a bump, bump, bump, and then a yell. "Help! Help!"

"I think that yell is from Ms. Kent's house," says Dan.

Dan and Sam run to the house next door. They see Ms. Kent at the bottom of her front steps. Ms. Kent is their neighbor. Dan and Sam like her very much. She is old, and she is fun. She tells them fun things from her past.

When she sees the kids, she says, "Oh, Dan and Sam, I am so glad to see you. I had a bad fall down my front steps. I was going to put scraps in the trash can, and I tripped on that rug at the top of the steps."

"I will help you," says Dan. He bends to help his neighbor up off the bottom step.

"No, Sam," says Ms. Kent. "I can not get up. I think I cracked my hip. I think it will be best if you call 911 and let the medics help me get up."

"Sam," says Dan, "run to the house and call 911. I will sit here with Ms. Kent. OK?"

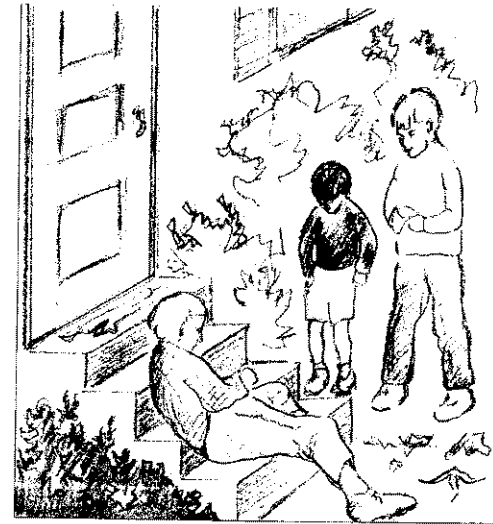
"OK," says Sam, as he runs to the house.

"Do not forget to tell them the address of Ms. Kent's house," yells Dan.

"OK! OK!" says Sam as he dashes up the steps to his house.

Dan sits next to Ms. Kent. She grasps his hand and says, "Oh, Dan, thank you for helping me and for sitting here with me."

Ms. Kent sits on the step all hunched up.



"Are you cold?" asks Dan. The sun is hot, but Dan thinks Miss Kent could be in shock. "I will get you a blanket."