



Fiction





The Muddy Mess

by Lynea Bowdish illustrated by Erik Brooks

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Dad's car was a muddy mess. There was mud on the top. There was mud on the tires. There was mud everywhere! Jake's bike was a muddy mess, too. "Hey, Dad," Jake said."I can help youclean your car.Then you can help meclean my bike."

"That is a good plan," Dad said.

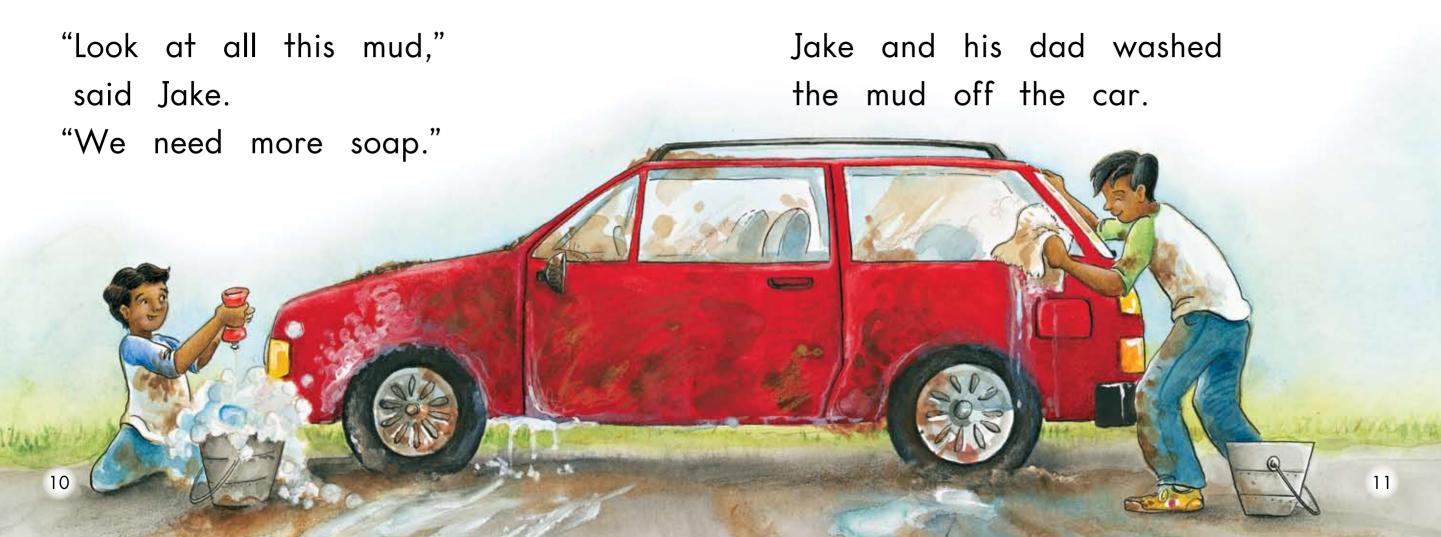


Dad got two pails. He gave one pail to Jake. Dad put soap in the pails. Then Jake filled the pails.



Dad and Jake washed the car. Dad washed the top. Jake washed the tires.

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Then they washed the muddy bike.

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"My bike is nice and clean," said Jake.

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"My car is clean, too," said Dad. "Let's go eat lunch!"

"Oh, no!" said Mom. "Now you two are a muddy mess!"