VOCABULARY · EPISODE 225

Short Stories with Peter: The Bear and the Two Friends

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

rely on someone

DEF

To trust that a person will help or support you when needed.

The pattern is rely on + person; it implies dependable support, not just liking someone.

Eli hoped to rely on Ben when the bear appeared.

I rely on my colleague to check important details.

2

beyond your reach

DEF

Too far away or too high for you to touch or get.

Beyond my reach can also describe a goal that is not possible for me right now.

The lowest branch was beyond Eli's reach.

The top shelf is beyond my reach without a ladder.

3

hold your breath

DEF

To stop breathing for a short time.

It can describe a physical action or waiting anxiously for a result.

Eli held his breath while the bear was near him.

We held our breath while we waited for the exam results.

4

face something alone

DEF

To deal with a difficult situation without another person's help.

Face highlights meeting a problem directly; alone describes the lack of support.

Eli faced the frightening moment alone.

You do not have to face this decision alone.

5

go wrong

DEF

To develop in an unexpected or unsuccessful way.

Often used in if anything goes wrong to talk about a possible problem.

The friends promised to stay together if anything went wrong.

Call me if anything goes wrong with the journey.

6

look as if

DEF

To seem, from what you can see, that something is true.

Use look as if + a clause; the appearance may be misleading.

It looked as if the bear whispered to Eli.

It looks as if the shop is closed, but the door is open.

7

turn away

DEF

To change direction so that you no longer face someone or something.

In this story the bear turned away and left; in conversation it can also mean refusing help, depending on context.

At last, the bear turned away.

She turned away from the window when her friend spoke.

8

leave someone alone

DEF

To go away or stop helping, so that a person is by themselves.

It can also mean stop bothering someone; context tells you whether it means abandonment or privacy.

Ben left Eli alone with the bear.

Please do not leave her alone when she needs support.