

A summer surprise July 2023

Next to Pinky's pond, Ms. Melly has a garden.

In that garden, there is a circle of rocks.

Inside the circle of rocks is a fairy garden.

And in the middle of the fairy garden is a tiny fairy cottage shaped like a teapot.

This is the cottage that Ms. Pinky lives in, and she chose it because it reminds her of her favorite time of day, teatime.

Teatime is when you stop what you are doing to have a cup of tea and a tookie.

A tookie is a cookie you eat at teatime.

She usually has teatime in the morning, afternoon, and before bed.



And this is where we find Ms. Pinky as this summer story begins—sitting at her table, dunking her chocolate tookie into a cup of strawberry mint tea. Pinky turned to Alfie. He was chewing on a piece of lettuce.

“We better get going,” she said. It is time to open the pond library.” She filled her bag with the books she needed to return, plus a few more tookies for later. Alfie hopped in and peeked over the side.

As she opened her front door, they were both surprised
by a big splash of water and a large puddle outside her door.



“Oh no! she cried.
It’s raining!
We are going to get all wet!
And the books too!

She quickly shut the door and wiped Alphie’s face with a towel.

“What can we use to stay dry so we can walk to the library?” she wondered.

Then she pulled out a cardboard box at the bottom of her closet and squealed with excitement. She had found her blue raincoat.

“Yay!” she cried. “This raincoat will keep us dry!”

When she picked up the raincoat, she found her umbrella underneath. “Perfect!” she said happily.

She pushed the little blue button on the umbrella, and it popped up to create the perfect canopy over her head.

“There is just one thing left to find,” said Pinky.

“Where are my polka-dot rainboots?”

She moved a couple of boxes aside and looked again. But she couldn’t remember where she had put them. Alfie shuffled slowly into the closet. After a few minutes, he quietly returned, proudly pushing a colorful rain boot in front of him.

“Alfie! You are such a clever snail! You have found my boots.”

You know what else? I am glad it rained today because I love wearing my rainy-day clothes. They are so colorful!”

Finally, Ms. Pinky was ready to make her way to the library!



But just as she opened the door to leave,
she stopped,
looked out at the garden,
and started to laugh.

The rain had stopped.
“Oh well,” she said to Alfie.
“I think I will wear my rainy-
day clothes anyway.
Better to be prepared.
You never know when it
might sprinkle.”



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