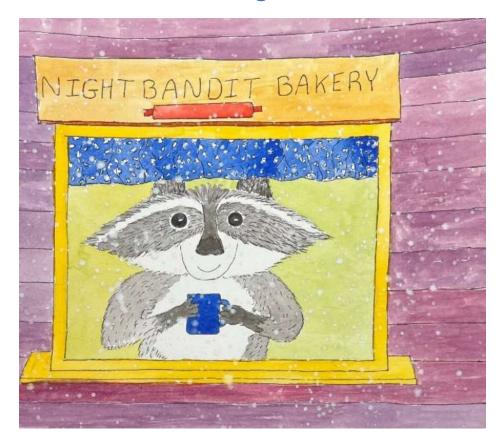
The Missing Snowflake



Ace looked out his window and sipped hot chocolate from his favorite mug. It was the first snowfall of the season and big, puffy snowflakes were floating down.

He watched as his friends played in the mounds of new snow.

Jay, the bird, was flying around, catching snowflakes on her tongue.

Over by the pond, Percy the purple squirrel had set up his easel to practice painting snow.

Oliver, the turkey, joined some friends, sliding down the big hill.

Miss Melly was filling the bird feeders in the garden with sunflower seeds to share.

And I (Ms. Pinky) was at the library, setting up for the snow celebration party.

Ace smiled as he watched all the excitement.

I want to do something special for the snow celebration, he thought.

I know! I can make some cookies shaped like snowflakes!

He looked through his cookbooks and found his favorite sugar cookie recipe.

Then, he went to his pantry and picked out everything he would need.



His kitchen filled with the sounds of rattling measuring cups, the whirring mixer, and the swoosh of his rolling pin flattening out the dough.

Now came his favorite part, cutting out the shapes.

He dumped his box of cookie cutters onto the table, but he did not see the one shaped like a snowflake. Ace frowned. How could he make snow celebration cookies if he could not find his snowflake cookie cutter?

Just then, the door of the bakery opened. Percy quickly jumped in and shut the door. He was shivering and hopping up and down to keep warm.

"It's c c c cold out there.

Iss stand soss still to paint.

1 get c c cold very fffast.

I need to g g get warmed up!"



Come on in," said ace. "Let me get you some hot cocoa."

Having a cup of Ace's delicious hot chocolate was a special treat, and he kept it in a pot on the stove so that it would always be warm when his friends stopped by. Percy rubbed his paws

together while watching Ace ladle the delicious warm chocolate out of the big pot and into a small blue cup. He handed it to Percy. Percy took a big drink and held the warm mug in his hands. Slowly he began to feel better.

Ace sighed and looked down at the table. "I was going to make snowflake cookies for the party today, but I can't find my cookie cutter. I know it's here somewhere! What am I going to do with all this dough I made?".

Percy looked at the pile of cookie cutters lying on Ace's table. He saw one shaped like a pumpkin, another shaped like a sheep, and another shaped like a teddy bear. But none of them looked like a snowflake.

Percy wanted to help, but how?
'Maybe I can help you find it", he said.
They looked all around the bakery. Behind

boxes, in the cabinets, and even on the windowsill. But It was not there.

They both stared at the cookie dough and took another sip of cocoa.

"There must be another way to make a snowflake," said Percy.

"Hey! What if I draw a snowflake on this paper?

We can use it as a template to cut out the shapes in the dough".

Ace smiled. "I like that idea. Let's try it."

Percy drew a snowflake and then used scissors to cut it out.

Ace laid the paper snowflake on top of the dough and carefully cut around the shape.

They stepped back and looked at the result.





"It looks just like a snowflake," Ace exclaimed.

The two friends got to work and cut out even more snowflakes in the dough. When they had filled the cookie tray, Ace put them in the oven. Soon the smell of freshly baked cookies filled the bakery. Ace mixed up some frosting, and they decorated them to look like little snowflakes.

"We need to get over to the party," said Ace.

They carefully put all the snowflake cookies into a box and hurried to the library to join their friends.

Can you help Ace find his cookie cutter?

Look back at the picture of Ace in his pantry.

Can you see where he left it?

If you do, come over to Facebook and let us know.



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