

"Honey! It's time to get up. We're leaving in ten minutes," Mom called. I jumped out of bed, put on my clothes, and rushed downstairs. My family was going camping for the first time. I was excited, but I had no idea such a great adventure was ahead of me.

Once outside, I climbed into the car. We began to drive. After what felt like forever, we finally made it to the campground. Everyone helped unload the car and set up the tent. At last, my older brother Kevin and I were free to explore. We found a winding path leading into the woods. One tree stretched its branches over a sparkling stream. A few of its leaves danced on the surface of the water.

Kevin dashed ahead of me on the hiking trail. "Hey, come check out what I found," he called to me.

"What is that?" I asked as Kevin pointed at paw prints in the soft ground.

"Looks like bear tracks," he said.

"What? There are bears around here?" I tried not to sound too scared.

We continued to walk along the stream. The wild honeysuckle smelled as sweet as candy. I smiled at the beauty all around me. Snap! I heard something crack and crunch in the bushes. My stomach jumped into my throat. I thought a ferocious bear was going to grab me, but it was just a playful squirrel rustling the leaves.

When we got back to the campsite, Kevin snuck into the fishing supplies. He had a plan to scare Mom. "Open your hands and close your eyes, then you will get a big surprise," Kevin sang as he bounced up to Mom.