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Belle and Billy Stay at Home



Illustrations by Children of Northumberland

Chapter 7

Thank You NHS

It was Thursday and as part of Billy's daily routine he always did some writing.

"What does n, h, s, spell Daddy?" asked Billy.

"That's a funny word Billy, why do you ask?"

"I've seen it in pictures and I hear people saying it needs protecting and I would like to protect it, I can be superman!"



"Well, it's called the NHS because they are the letters that stand for the National Health Service. All of the hospitals, doctors, and even Aunty Rosy who drives the ambulance work for the NHS.

“Shall we phone Aunty Rosy and ask her about what it's like to drive an ambulance?”

“Wow, yes daddy that would be great, do you think I could go in her ambulance?” asked Billy.
“I'm not sure she might be busy, but we can ask.” replied Daddy.

Ring! Ring! “Hello Billy, how are you, I hope you're staying at home?” said Aunty Rosy.

“Yes I am, but I would like to have a ride in your ambulance, can I? replied Billy.



"Oh Billy, not at the moment as we are very busy looking after all of the people who are sick and taking them to hospital. It is sad but taking people home again once they are better makes me very happy. Why don't you make your own ambulance? Your Daddy says you are good at pretending."

"Yeah, I'll do that." replied Billy.

"Oh, sorry Billy, I'm going to have to go now. I'll ring you later." said Aunty Rosy, rushing off.

"Okay, bye Aunty Rosy, be careful!" said Billy.

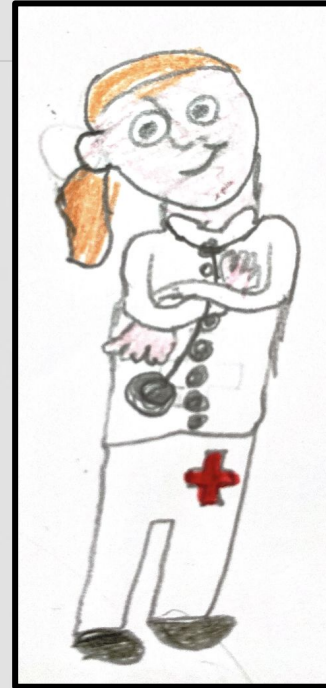
Billy was proud of Aunty Rosy and remembered what Jo had said about turning a cardboard box into anything, he decided to change his Den into an ambulance. He was just like Aunty Rosy. Inside his ambulance he made loud ambulance noises "neymar neymar, woowoo. Quick we need to help someone who is poorly."



Next door, Belle was dressed in her doctors outfit and had all of her toys lined up for treatment.

Rex, the big green dinosaur had a broken tail, which needed a bandage. Teddy Tom, which she has had since she was a baby, had a bad tummy and needed some medicine. Panda had a sore nose which Belle rubbed better. Poor Poodle, a knitted dog that her Aunty Claire had made for her, had a bad cough. "You need to go to hospital" said Belle.

"I need to ring 999 to get the ambulance." So she dialed the number on her pretend phone. If only Billy could come around in his ambulance, she thought.

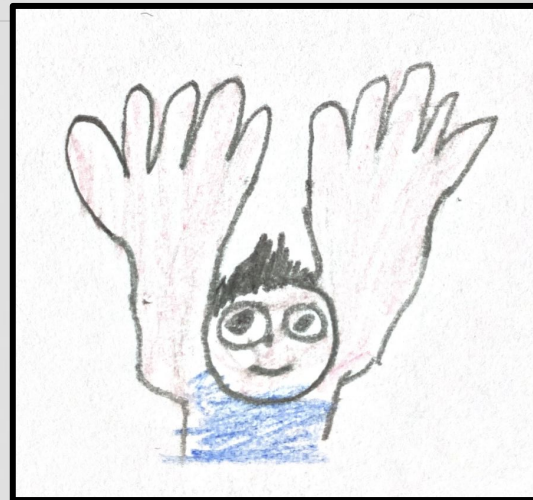


That evening at 8pm all of the families in Northumberland and all of those on Blyth road opened their front doors or windows and clapped loudly.

“Why are we doing this” both Belle and Billy asked the mummies and daddies. “Well it’s our way of saying thank you to all of those people, like Aunty Rosy, who are working so hard to look after us all.”

As well as clapping as loudly as possible, Billy used his outdoor voice and shouted “THANK YOU AUNTY ROSY, THANK YOU NHS!”

Both Belle and Billy want everyone to protect the NHS and stay safe. “Can we do that again next week?” Billy asked.



Parents & Carers Page

Things to talk about with your child after sharing the story...

- ◆ What was Billy's Aunty Rosy's job?
- ◆ What did Billy use to make his ambulance?
- ◆ What number did Belle pretend to call to get the ambulance?
- ◆ Can you open your window or stand on your step on Thursday night at 8pm to clap for the NHS?

What will happen in chapter 8? Continue sharing the story with your child each week to catch up with Billy and Belle.

Don't forget to access lots of fun ideas and activities by clicking on the [Northumberland Early Years Learning Together at Home Padlet](#)

