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Belle and Billy Stay at Home





Chapter 8

Northumberland Day

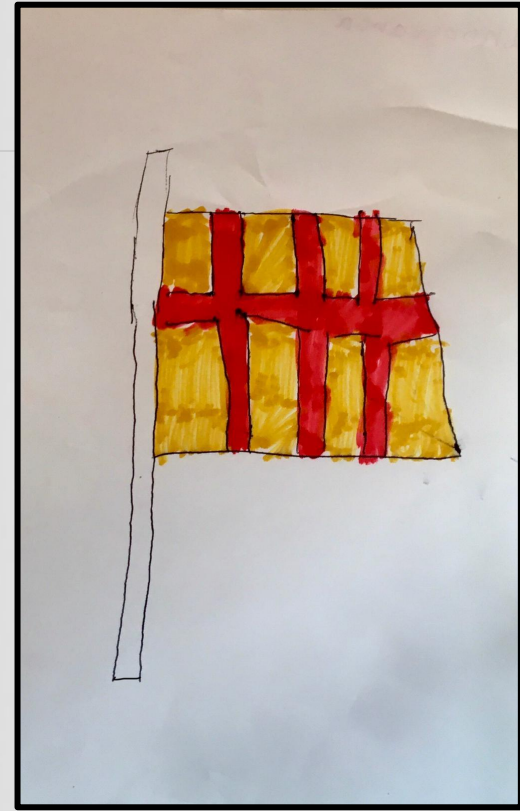


Belle's Mummy had just come back from the shop. "What have you got, Mummy" asked Belle. "Well" replied Mummy, "I've got you a present." "A present! What is it?" asked Belle excitedly. "When I was in Asda getting our food shopping I noticed they had some red and yellow Duplo bricks on offer, so I got you some." "Oh thank you, Mummy." "I got you them because the 24th May is Northumberland Day." "What's that?" asked Belle. "It's a special day to celebrate Northumberland, which is the county we live in."



"Come here Belle and I'll show you it on a map." Belle's Mummy opened the maps on her phone and showed Belle where Northumberland is. "I got you the red and yellow bricks because they are the colours in the Northumberland flag." "Can you show me that too?" asked Belle. "Yes" replied Mummy as she searched for the Northumberland flag on her phone.

"I thought we could build a castle and take a photograph of it to send to Jo. Northumberland is famous across the country for having lots of castles." "I remember when we went to the castle once Mummy." said Belle. "Can you? You were very little when we went there. That was Alnwick Castle" said Mummy. "I'm going to build Alnwick castle then." said Belle.



Belle's Mummy found a photograph of Alnwick castle on the internet for Belle to look at. She started to build it, stacking the bricks to create a pattern; yellow, red, yellow, red.

When Belle finished she said "Mummy, I have lots of bricks left. Could we give some to Billy so he can build a castle too?" "What a lovely idea" replied Mummy. "I'll give them a wipe down so they are clean and pop them on Billy's door step."



Off Belle's Mummy went to take the bricks to Billy. Belle peered over the wall, watching for Billy coming out. Belle's Mummy knocked on the door and walked back towards her gate. "What's this?" said Billy's Daddy when he opened the door. "Just a little present for Billy from Belle. She has been building a castle to celebrate Northumberland day and wanted to give her spare bricks to Billy." Just then Billy came running to the door. "Thank you Belle!" he shouted over the wall. Belle gave Billy a little wave and called out "You're welcome!" "That is very kind!" said Billy, "I'm going to build a big strong castle like Belle did and keep it safe until Belle can come around to play again." "What a lovely idea, Billy." said Daddy. "Hopefully that won't be too long away."



Parents & Carers Page

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

- ◆ What did Belle build to celebrate Northumberland day?
- ◆ Which colours did she use?
- ◆ Can you build a castle like Belle and Billy did using, Lego, Duplo, bricks, stones or sticks?

What will happen in chapter 9? 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](#)

