

## **(2) Toby's Special Talent**

In the heart of Sunnyside Forest, every animal had a special gift. The rabbits were famous for their speed, and the squirrels were masters of climbing tall trees. But Toby the turtle felt very ordinary because he moved slowly. While others were racing, Toby spent his time looking at tiny flowers and the beautiful patterns on stones. He liked it when things were in the right place, and he enjoyed the quiet beauty of nature.

One morning, the teacher, Mrs. Bear, made an exciting announcement. "We are going to build a new Learning Center!" she said. "It should be a quiet place for reading and thinking. We need to work together to make it perfect."

All the animals wanted to help right away. The rabbits ran fast, picking up every branch. The squirrels made messy piles of leaves, and the monkeys dropped heavy logs everywhere. "Look at how fast we are working!" shouted a monkey. "We will finish first!" But the center quickly became a big mess. It was noisy and crowded because there were too many things in one small space.

Toby stood in the middle of the mess. Instead of rushing, he looked at the room with his calm eyes and saw the problems. He noticed the books were buried under leaves and the path was blocked. Toby began to work in his own way. He moved one small piece of wood at a time. He carefully put the books in neat rows and cleared away the trash.

"Toby, why are you so slow?" asked a rabbit, running by with some grass. "We must finish before the sun goes down! You are taking too much time with those little stones!"

Toby stopped and smiled kindly. “I am not just moving stones,” Toby said. “I am making a peaceful home. A place for learning should be organized and quiet. If we hurry too much, the room will not feel comfortable. Don't you want a nice place to read?”

By the afternoon, the other animals were very tired. Their piles of branches were just a mountain of junk. “I can't find my hammer!” cried a squirrel. “Everything is buried!” Then, the animals looked at Toby's area and were surprised. It was organized and beautiful, and it had enough space for everyone to breathe.

“Toby's way is actually the best,” the elephants said. “We should stop rushing and help him.” The elephants moved the heavy shelves to the spots Toby pointed out. The birds arranged the decorations to keep the room looking simple.

When the Learning Center was finished, Mrs. Bear walked inside and smiled. “This is wonderful,” she said. “It is clean and full of light. It is the perfect place to grow and learn. Who had this great idea?”

“Toby did!” the animals shouted together. “He was our leader!” Toby felt very happy. He learned that being slow was a secret strength. It helped him see the small details that others missed. He had turned a mess into a perfect home for everyone. From that day on, Toby was the forest's best organizer.