

There once was an enormous snake that lived under a rock in a garden. Even though the snake was not poisonous, everyone believed he was. When he came out from under the rock to sit in the sun, people would point at him and scream, "Look at the venomous snake! Run!"

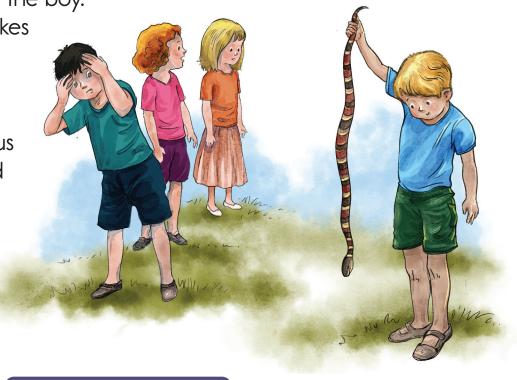
This made the snake very sad. He did not want people to think he was dangerous. He wanted friends!

Then one joyous day, a little boy came along who was not frightened. Instead he was curious. "Look at the pretty snake," he said.

"Ahhh!" screamed all the other kids. "Run! It is an enormous poisonous snake!"

"He is not venomous!" said the boy. "I just did a report on snakes in school. This snake is not dangerous at all!"

The snake felt tremendous happiness. At last he had a friend!





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