

Easy English Stories – Episode 39: Bob's Talent

Target Level: Move 1 and up

Grammar: *can /can't* for ability (e.g., *I can juggle. He can't sing. Can you play the guitar?*)

Vocabulary: talent, juggle, practicing, cereal, quietly, language, puzzle, project, roll, without, taught

Functions: talking about abilities

INTRODUCTION

C.S.: Hello, boys and girls! Welcome to Easy English Stories!

Echo: Captain Story, I have a question.

C.S.: What is it?

Echo: What is a talent?

C.S.: A talent is something you can do very well.

Echo: I can forget things very well.

C.S.: That's not a talent, Echo. Anything else?

Echo: Oh, I can beep a song. Listen. *beep beep beep beep...*

C.S.: Is that "Happy Birthday"?

Echo: No. It's "Beep Beep Beep Beep." A very famous robot song.

C.S.: OK. Today's story is about a boy in a talent show. Let's listen!

MAIN STORY: Bob's Talent

C.S.: Bob is 8 years old. Tomorrow, his school has a talent show. All the children are talking about it.

At breakfast, Mom asks, "Bob, what is your talent for the show?"

Bob looks at his cereal. "I don't have one," he says.

At school, everyone is practicing in the yard. Sara can make balloon animals. Tom can solve a Rubik's cube very fast. Leo can play the guitar. And Ana can count to 100 in three languages.

Bob sits on a bench. He feels sad.

"I can't do anything," Bob says.

Echo: He can't do anything.

C.S.: In class, the teacher smiles. "Children, show us a little of your talent!"

Sara makes a balloon dog. Tom solves a Rubik's cube in 30 seconds. Leo plays three notes on a tiny guitar. Ana counts to 100 in one language.

Then the teacher looks at Bob. "Bob, what can you do?"

Echo: What can you do?

C.S.: Bob stands up. He opens his mouth. Then he closes it. "Nothing," he says quietly.

The teacher smiles. "Everyone can do something, Bob."

Bob sits down. His face is red. He wants to go home.

Then the teacher opens a box of eggs for an art project. Three eggs roll off the desk.

Without thinking, Bob's hands move. Throw. Catch. Throw. Catch. Throw. Catch.

The eggs don't fall. Bob is juggling!

The children stop. The teacher stops. Everyone looks.

"Bob!" one of his friends shouts. "You can juggle!"

Echo: Bob can juggle!

C.S.: Bob stops. His eyes are big. "I forgot! My grandpa taught me when I was little."

The whole class claps. Bob smiles. For the first time, he knows what he can do.

PRACTICE

C.S.: Let's practice! Please repeat after us!

C.S.: He can play the guitar.

Echo: He can play the guitar.

C.S.: She can make balloon animals.

Echo: She can make balloon animals.

C.S.: He can solve puzzles.

Echo: He can solve puzzles.

C.S.: I can't do anything.

Echo: I can't do anything.

C.S.: He can juggle eggs.

Echo: He can juggle eggs.

Q&A + Fun Fact

C.S.: Now it's time for your emails! Let's see what you sent us.

Our first email is from Tara. She asks, "Captain Story, why does my cat always sit near the computer?"

Because she wants to keep an eye on the mouse, Tara.

Our next email is from Ken. He asks, "Captain Story, why does the dentist have little mirrors?"

Well, that's because her head can't fit in your mouth, Ken.

And our last email is from Negin. She asks, "Captain Story, why do some students always sit in the back of the classroom?"

They hope the teacher's questions don't reach that far, Negin.

Echo, do you have a fun fact today?

Echo: Yes! Did you know that juggling helps your brain? It makes both sides of your brain work together!

C.S.: So juggling makes you smarter!

Echo: Yes!

C.S.: Thanks for your fun fact, Echo. Well, goodbye, boys and girls! See you next week for another story!

Echo: Goodbye.

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WORDS FROM THE STORY

juggle

to throw and catch two or more things in the air at the same time



language

the words we use to speak, read, or write to other people

Rubik's Cube

a small box with colored squares that you twist to make each side the same color



solve

to find the answer to a problem or question

talent

something you are very good at doing

