

A Surprise from Australia (175 字)

The school day ends and Erica quickly puts her books in her bag and runs out of the classroom.

Today is a special day. Erica is very excited. She runs home and thinks about her uncle. She spoke with him on the phone a week ago. He is returning from Australia, and he is bringing a special surprise with him!

Erica is very happy. She thinks about the surprise that he will bring.

"Maybe he is bringing a surfboard? Fun! I can learn how to surf!"

"Maybe he is bringing nuts from Australia? Oh, I can eat nuts all day!"

"Or maybe he is bringing a kangaroo? That is not so good. I don't know where to put a kangaroo..."

When Erica arrives home. Her parents are there, and her uncle is there, too. She is very happy to see him. They hug and she jumps up and down.

"Uncle, Uncle," she says, "What special surprise do you have for me from Australia?"

"Well," her uncle smiles and answers, "I have for you an Australian aunt!"

Luka Plays Baseball (330 字)

Luka and his friend Sam could see the big children playing baseball. "They are good at hitting the ball," said Sam. "I want to hit a ball like that," said Luka, "but I don't have a bat." "My big sister Kim has one at home," said Sam.

After school, Luka went to Sam's house. "Can we play with your bat, please?" Sam said to Kim. "You can play with my bat if you look after it," said Kim, and she went to get it. Sam got a ball.

Kim gave her bat to Luka. "Here comes the ball," said Sam. Luka swung the bat. He missed the ball. "Try again," said Sam. Luka swung the bat again. But he missed the ball again. "I can't hit the ball," said Luka.

Kim came over to them. "This tee could help," she said. "Put the ball on top of it like this." Kim put the ball on top of the tee. "Now try again," she said. Luka swung the bat again. "This is better," he said. "I can hit the ball now." Soon the boys were very good. They did not need to put the ball on the tee.

One day at school, a teacher came over to them. "You boys are very good at hitting the ball," she said. "Would you like to play baseball for the school team?" "Yes, please!" said Luka and Sam.

On Saturday, Luka was scared as he sat with the boys and girls in his team. What if he missed the ball? Then it was his turn. He swung the bat. Thud!

Luka hit the ball very hard. It went a long way. "Home run! Home run!" shouted the children. Luka ran as fast as he could. He ran over base one. He ran over base two. He ran over base three. Then he ran over the home base.

"You hit the ball, and you made a home run too!" shouted Sam. Luka was very happy.

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