MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

Snow or No Snow: Ruby's Beach Christmas



No Snow at All

It was Christmas Eve, and the sun was hot and bright. Ruby looked at her favourite Christmas book. Every page was full of snow. Then she looked out of the window. No snow at all. Just sunshine, and the sea, sparkling far away. "Nan," said Ruby, "can Christmas come without snow?"





Hats On

Nan smiled. "Here in Australia, Christmas comes in summer," she said. "Let's go and find some Christmas at the beach." Hats on. Sunscreen on noses. Then Dad put on his red Santa hat, and little Leo laughed and laughed.

Beach Snow

The sand was soft and white and warm. "Look," said Nan. "Beach snow!" Ruby lay down on her back. She swished her arms up and down, up and down. When she jumped up, there it was: a sand angel, with two big wings.





A Tree Made of Sand

Next, they built a tree. Pat, pat, pat went Ruby's hands on the sand. Leo found pink shells for baubles. Dad found green seaweed for tinsel. And Nan found one flat white shell, just the shape of a star. Ruby put it right on top.

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A Picnic Under the Umbrella

They had a Christmas Eve picnic under the big striped umbrella. Sweet, sticky mango. Cold, crunchy watermelon. Juice ran down Ruby's chin, and she giggled. Far away, the waves whispered, shhh, shhh.





Goodnight, Sand Tree

The sun sank low and pink. It was time to go home. Ruby waved to her sand tree. "Goodnight, sand tree. Goodnight, sand angel." On their street, Christmas lights twinkled along every veranda, red and green and gold.

Snow or No Snow

At bedtime, the night was warm. The fan hummed. Outside, the cicadas sang their summer song. Ruby had sand between her toes and a pink shell beside her bed. "Christmas is here," she whispered, "snow or no snow." And she fell fast asleep.



THE END

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