

A close-up photograph of a wooden basket filled with various flowers. In the foreground, three white ceramic bunnies are nestled among the blooms. The basket is overflowing with purple and yellow flowers, with green leaves interspersed throughout. The lighting is soft, highlighting the textures of the fabric flowers and the smooth surface of the ceramic bunnies.

Rorydory Stories

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Frosty the Snowman Meets Global Climate Change

The snow came late that year and after the kids had given up on thoughts of building snowmen. As the snow fell the kids hurried out to create their favorite winter playmate, Frosty. He enjoyed the cold winter days, but after a while he noticed that no one came out to play with him.

Some days the temperature would drop below zero and go up the next day to 20 or 30 degrees. Frosty did not mind the cold arctic weather. After all he was dressed in his best top hat, wool scarf, and warm mittens. He hoped to have his usual winter fun. During the frigid weather, however, the kids would not come out to play. As time passed all Frosty could do was sit there and watch trucks and cars go by. He became a little happier the warmer it got, because the kids could come out to play with him.

His happiness lasted only a short time as one day the temperature went up unexpectedly into the 40s. Frosty started to melt. The next day about 4:00 p.m. the temperature dropped suddenly into the 30s. He was able to hold himself together although he had lost some inches in height. Dwarfed he was, but he lived to see another day.

At sunrise Frosty was greeted by some newly budded flowers. The flowers leaned forward toward him. Flowers of all colors spoke to him in one loud voice saying, "Let us raise people's awareness about these crazy weather changes. What we are feeling and seeing is unseasonal." The flowers were wilting as they continued, "We won't survive this early frost." The sun overheard and came down close to join in the conversation. It was careful to bring the clouds around to shield them from its intense heat rays. Frosty was slowly melting, but eager to hear their plan to preserve the natural seasons of Mother nature and her relationship with Father time.

The kids expected a few more months of fun in the snow with Frosty but it was not to be. Frosty disappeared during the bizarre weather changes. They began to search in the front and back yard for him. He was nowhere to

be found. The kids cried and complained about the mysterious disappearance of their winter friend. They felt it was not fair that their play time with Frosty had been cut short. Their parents vowed that they would investigate the climate changes that brought the winter to an abrupt end.

As children they too loved playing in the snow with Frosty and they wanted that same winter joy for their kids. And so began the campaign to stop global climate change.

THE END



Merry Christmas

A Christmas Story.

It was getting close to Christmas and all the kids were excited with joy in anticipation of the usual holiday events and gift exchanges. However, the season well wishes and greetings were disrupted by the noise and confusion of upcoming elections. There were fewer holiday commercials. Everyone was bombarded by political news and ads teeming with the gloom and doom of life's realities.

Normally this time of year, the kids would think about shopping for toys, but the economy was on the decline and parents were not inclined to shop with empty wallets. Some parents thought of other ways to occupy the kids time by focusing on community needs. Their decided theme: Kids investing in their future by improving their community. Now that was an idea representative of the Holiday Spirit.

Of course, the parents knew it would be hard to get the kids to think about anyone other than themselves. It was a challenge, but circumstances demanded innovative action. Since elections were coming up, kids could do artwork to raise awareness about issues important to them and post it in in their condo building.

Eventually other residents in the building were influenced by the kids' artistic messages. Some of the kids felt so successful that they pursued careers as local artists. The first of their rewards was getting their own art studio for helping to elect a new condo association board president who would fight for better building management. What a Christmas gift, although delayed. It was a gift that kept on giving to the kids and the other residents in the building.

Thanks to the parents' creative challenge for the kids the Holiday Spirit prevailed. Despite financially hard times, Christmas cheer can be shared by many more kids in the future.

THE END

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