

Lost and Found

by Oliver Jeffers

Hello, everyone. My number is _____.

Today I'm going to read you a story. It's called "Lost and Found."

Once there was a boy, he found a penguin at his door. The boy didn't know where it had come from, but it began to follow him everywhere. The penguin looked sad, and the boy thought it must be lost, so the boy decided to help the penguin find its way home.

He checked in the lost and found office, but no one was missing a penguin. He asked some birds if they knew where the penguin came from, but they ignored him. The boy asked his duck, but the duck floated away.

That night, the boy couldn't sleep for disappointment. The next morning, he discovered that penguins came from the South Pole. So, together, he and the penguin would row to the South Pole.

The boy took his rowboat out of the cupboard. They packed everything they would need, and pushed the rowboat out to sea. They rowed south for many days and nights, with the boy telling stories all the way. The penguin listened to everything that the boy said.

They floated through good weather and bad, when the waves were as big as mountains, until they came to the South Pole. The boy was delighted, but the penguin said nothing.

Suddenly, it looked sad again as the boy helped it out of the boat. The boy said goodbye and floated away, but as he looked back, the penguin looked sadder than ever. It felt strange to be on his own, and the more he thought, the more he realized he was making a big mistake. The penguin wasn't lost; it was just lonely. Quickly, he turned the boat around and headed back to the South Pole as fast as he could.

At last, he reached the pole again, but where was the penguin? The boy searched and searched, but it was nowhere to be found. Sadly, the boy set off for home. There was no point telling stories because there was no one to listen.

But then, the boy saw something in the water ahead of him. Closer and closer he got until he could see the penguin. And so, the boy and his friend went home together, talking of wonderful things all the way.

Thank you for listening. Have a nice day.