

Missing Ummi

Story by Jill Bryant

Illustrations by Martín Bustamante





Missing Ummi

Level 19

Running Words 556 Text Type Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Humanities (Geography); The Arts (Visual Arts); Technologies (Digital)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 Why was Maya worried at the start of the story?
- 2 What did Willow give Maya from her bag?
- 3 Where did Willow suggest Maya put all her special drawings?

Inferential

- 4 Why did Maya draw Ummi's plane on the first night?
- 5 Why did Willow put the note in Maya's lunch bag?
- 6 Why did Willow suggest putting all the drawings in a special box?
- 7 How do you know that Maya enjoyed having Willow look after her?
- 8 What special activity do you think Maya might do next time Ummi is away?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 Why did Maya feel happier when she was drawing pictures for Ummi?
- 10 How is a video call different from a phone call?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 19	Narrative	<i>The Mini-Brick City</i>
Level 20	Narrative	<i>Ravi's Rock Pool</i>
Level 20	Narrative	<i>Amber's Special Trip</i>



Guided Reading Planner

Access Teacher's Notes and Student Activities online for over 1000 PM Level 1–30 books!

Visit: ga/pmgrpplanner

Missing Ummi

Story by Jill Bryant

Illustrations by Martín Bustamante



Contents

Chapter 1	Goodbye, Ummi	2
Chapter 2	Maya and Willow	6
Chapter 3	Welcome Home!	12

Chapter 1

Goodbye, Ummi

Author's note:

Ummi (say: oo-mi) is Arabic for 'mother' or 'mum'.

Maya and her mum were walking home from school together on Friday afternoon.

"Are we going to the park this weekend, Ummi?" asked Maya.

Ummi stopped.

"Not this weekend, Maya. I have some news," she said.

"On Sunday, I have to go overseas for work.

I'm going to Germany. I'll be gone for a week.

My good friend Willow will come and take care of you."

Maya felt worried. She had never been apart from Ummi for a whole week before.

“A week is a long time, Ummi!” she said.

“I must go, Maya,” said Ummi.

“But you will have fun with Willow.”



Willow arrived on Sunday afternoon.

Maya watched as her mum finished packing her bags. Soon, it was time for Ummi to go.

“Goodbye, Maya,” said Ummi.

“Goodbye, Ummi!” said Maya, sadly.

She and Willow watched as Ummi got into a taxi.

I wish Ummi didn't have to go away, thought Maya.





Chapter 2

Maya and Willow



“I’m missing Ummy,” Maya said to Willow, later that night.

“Sometimes when I feel sad, I like to draw,” said Willow. She reached into her bag and handed Maya a tin of beautiful pencils.

“Why don’t you draw a picture for your mum?” she asked.

“That’s a good idea,” said Maya.

Maya got some paper and began to draw.
She drew Ummi's plane.
It was speeding across a night sky.

"I think I'll draw a new picture for Ummi
every night," she said.

