



Dylan gets a job story - Part three



It is a beautiful, sunny day and Dylan has been lying in the field watching the clouds. Dylan likes to do this when he has a lot to think about. Today he is thinking about something very important that his friend Rhiannon taught him. He is thinking about the toy fire engine that he saw in her shop. He is thinking about how much he wants it and how much it is worth to him. "I think it is worth £10," Dylan says to himself aloud.

A sheep approaches him in the field and bleats as if he agrees. He looks at the sheep and says, "But I don't have £10. Where do I get £10 from? How do you get money?" The sheep is not very helpful, and simply chews his mouthful of grass. Dylan chuckles and says, "I think I should ask Rhiannon," while patting the sheep on the head.

Dylan heads to Rhiannon's shop. She smiles and waves as she notices him.

"Good morning Dylan," Rhiannon beams. "How are you on this lovely, sunny day?"

Dylan sighs, "I still have so many questions about money."

"That's ok," replies Rhiannon. "How can I help?"

"I have thought really hard about the fire engine. I know that I don't need it, but I do want it, and I think it is worth £10 to me," Dylan declares. "But I don't know where I can get £10 from."

"Then I think it's time for our next lesson," smiles Rhiannon. "Today we can learn about earning money."

"Yes, please," Dylan says excitedly. "How do you earn money?"

Rhiannon invites Dylan to come behind the shop counter and sit with her.

"You can earn money by doing jobs to help people, or by selling goods," Rhiannon explains.

"I earn money selling goods to people. This is my shop. It is full of things that people want and need. They come into the shop and give me money in exchange for those things."

Dylan pauses and looks around the shop. He wonders if he has any goods that he could sell to people. (1)

Dylan thinks hard about all the things he has and what he could sell.

"I have lots of toys," Dylan suggests, "but I don't really want to sell any of my toys. I really like them."

Dylan pauses again and thinks a little more. "I have a hat and coat that I could sell," Dylan adds.

"Hats and coats aren't fun. I don't think I would miss them."

Rhiannon laughs a little, "But what would you wear on cold and snowy days to keep warm? What would you wear on rainy days to keep dry?"

Dylan looks a little disappointed. "You are right," he says to Rhiannon.

"I do need to stay warm and dry." Dylan stops to think again. He sits in silence for a long time, trying to think of other things he could sell.

Rhiannon has an idea.

"You could make something to sell," she suggests. "What could you make?"

Dylan looks excited. "I am very good at drawing and painting," he says. "I could sell my pictures."

"That is a great idea," agrees Rhiannon. "I would love to buy one of your drawings. I would like a picture of my dog. Perhaps you could draw him for me? I would pay you £2 for that."

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Dylan dances excitedly. “You would pay me to draw?” Dylan asks.

“Drawing is a skill that you have. You can use your skills to earn money. You might have lots of skills that you can use to earn money,” explains Rhiannon.

Dylan is confused again. “What are skills?” he asks.

“Skills are abilities or talents that you have,” Rhiannon explains. “You are good at drawing. That is a skill. You may have some skills that come to you naturally and some that you have learned. What other skills do you have?” Rhiannon asks. (2)

“I learned how to juggle,” Dylan says proudly. “Is that a skill?”

“It certainly is,” replies Rhiannon, who looks very impressed. “What other things are you good at?”

Dylan’s eyes wander around the room as he tries to think of things he is good at. “I’m friendly. Is that a skill?”

“Yes, it is,” Rhiannon agrees. “Being friendly is a very important skill. Most people earn money by getting a job. There are all sorts of jobs, but most of them need someone who is friendly.”

“Could I get a job?” Dylan asks. “What exactly is a job?” he adds.

“Some people start businesses, like a shop, but there is too much work to do on their own. They pay someone else money to help them with their business. I pay two people to help me with my shop,” she explains. “I pay them to help the customers and keep the shop clean. Being friendly to the people who visit my shop is very important. They need to be friendly to have that job.”

“Can I have a job in your shop?” Dylan asks.

“I’m afraid that I don’t need anybody else right now, but I could help you to find another job?”

Rhiannon replies. “Let’s look in the newspaper. People who are looking for help with their business put advertisements in the newspaper.”

Rhiannon opens the newspaper to a page titled ‘Job Advertisements’. As they look through, there are all sorts of interesting jobs. (3)

HELP WANTED AT LOCAL SHOE SHOP

PLUMBER WANTED

HAIRDRESSER VACANCY

SALES PERSON REQUIRED

BONFIRE ASSISTANT

“Wait!” shouts Dylan. “A Bonfire Assistant. What is that?”

“I don’t know,” replies Rhiannon. The advertisement reads...

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**BONFIRE ASSISTANT
HELP WANTED FOR THE SUMMER FESTIVAL
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE FRIENDLY AND HARD-WORKING
MUST BE GOOD WITH FIRE**

“That sounds perfect for me,” Dylan squeals excitedly, “I am a dragon. I am great with fire.”

Rhiannon agrees and picks up the phone to call the number on the advertisement.

After a few moments on the phone, she turns to Dylan. “They need someone to light the bonfire at the end of the summer festival and make sure it keeps burning until everybody is ready to go home. I think you will be perfect,” she says. “And they agree. You have got the job.”

Dylan is so excited that he flies around the ceiling. Thanks to Rhiannon he has learned all about money, how to spend it wisely and how to earn it. This Saturday he will have his very first job and he is determined to do his very best.

Dylan flies straight home to start working on his picture for Rhiannon, but his mind is full of excitement. He sits at his living room table and draws the most beautiful picture of Rhiannon’s dog, Wendy. He decides to give it to her as a gift for all of her help. After all, he has a job to earn money now. (4)

It is Saturday morning. Dylan’s big day. The village is beautifully decorated with colourful flowers and bunting. There’s a chill in the air, so Dylan puts on his coat and scarf. He smiles to himself, remembering that Rhiannon told him he would need them. He walks proudly into the village square. The sweet smell of candyfloss and cakes float past Dylan and he sniffs with a grin. He walks over to the organiser’s office and introduces himself.

“I am Dylan and I am the Bonfire Assistant,” he declares proudly.

There is a gentleman sitting at a desk with a big moustache and an even bigger smile.

“Well I am Mr Jones, and I can see we made a very good choice for this job!” he replies.

Dylan builds a fantastic bonfire and the people gather around. As the sun sets Dylan takes a deep breath and breathes fire into the bottom of the bonfire. Everybody cheers and claps as the flames grow and warm everybody around.

Dylan notices Rhiannon clapping and cheering with Mr Jones, and he walks over to say hello.

“I am very proud of you, Dylan,” Rhiannon says with a smile. “You have learned so much and you have done a great job tonight.”

“I agree,” says Mr Jones. “Here you go, Dylan. You have earned it.” Mr Jones hands Dylan a £10 note. Dylan is so pleased that his eyes fill with happy tears.

“I can get my fire engine,” Dylan whimpers. “Thank you, Mr Jones and thank you Rhiannon. Thank you, thank you.”

As Dylan heads home, flying above the village, he realises the most important thing he has learned. He has learned the value of friendship. As he approaches his home at the top of the hill, he thinks about what a lucky dragon he is to have everything he needs. (5)

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Class questions:

1. Dylan doesn't have a shop full of goods, but does he have anything he could sell?
What sort of things might he have?
2. What skills do you have?
3. What jobs do we already know? Can you think of any?
4. Do you think Dylan should give the picture as a gift if Rhiannon has offered to pay £2?
5. Dylan was a fantastic Bonfire Assistant because he is a dragon.
What jobs do you think you would be good at?

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