



Suddenly, a rhythmic thump-thump-thump echoed against the wooden door. Mylo perked up his round ears and shuffled across the floor. When he pulled the door open, he found his best friend standing there with the biggest smile he had ever seen.




"Mylo! You won't believe it!" Benny shouted, hopping up and down. He explained all about the Great Maypole Celebration happening in the meadow. There would be ribbons, music, and a special dance that everyone in the forest performed together.






As Benny talked about the dancing, Mylo's tummy began to do somersaults. He looked down at his big, heavy feet and imagined tripping over the long, colorful ribbons. "I don't know, Benny," Mylo whispered nervously. "I'm not a very good dancer."




The day of the festival arrived, and the meadow was a sea of colors. In the center stood a tall wooden pole draped in long silk ribbons of pink, blue, and yellow. Mylo gripped his ribbon tightly, his heart beating like a drum.





The music started, and the animals began to weave in and out. Left, right, under, and over! But Mylo got confused.

He stepped left when he should have gone right, and suddenly, he was wrapped head-to-toe in silk ribbons!



Mylo's face turned as red as Benny's bowtie. He felt so embarrassed as the other animals stopped to look. He wanted to run away and hide in his dark cave forever. He felt like he had ruined the beautiful dance for everyone.



Benny hopped over and patted Mylo's paw. "It's okay, Mylo! If the dancing is too tricky right now, let's make some music instead!" Benny picked up two dry sticks and started a beat.

Mylo smiled and found a hollow log to drum on.




Soon, all their friends joined in.


They used acorn caps as whistles and dried seed pods as shakers. The forest was filled with a brand-new kind of music.

Mylo realized that even if he couldn't dance perfectly yet, he could still contribute to the fun.





"Let's try the dance again, but just us," Benny suggested later that afternoon. Over and over, Mylo and Benny practiced the steps in the quiet part of the meadow. One-two-step, one-two-spin. Mylo focused hard, and slowly, his big feet began to find the rhythm.



After the sun began to set and the celebrations ended, Mylo looked around at the messy meadow. "The forest gave us a great party," Mylo said. "We should do something kind to say thank you." Benny agreed, and they started picking up the stray ribbons and fallen branches.




"I have a surprise for you, Benny," Mylo said as they sat down to rest. He opened a small basket he had hidden earlier. He had packed extra honey-and-clover sandwiches to share. Benny's nose twitched with delight as they ate their snack together.




The next morning, the two friends decided to go on a grand exploration. They wandered through the tall grass, collecting wild lilies and daisies. They stopped to watch a family of ducks swimming in the pond, feeling peaceful and curious about the world around them.





As they walked, Mylo realized he wasn't bored anymore. He looked at Benny and gave him a big, furry bear hug. He learned that it didn't matter if he messed up a dance move, as long as he had a friend to help him try again.



"Teamwork and friendship are the best adventures of all," Mylo whispered. Benny nodded, leaning his long ears against Mylo's soft fur. Together, the bear and the rabbit headed back home, ready for whatever tomorrow might bring.

