New School

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illustrated by Juan Bautista

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Knock, knock, knock. Jade’s mom knocked on her door. Jade did not even look up.

“I know you can hear me knocking!” called Mom.
“Come in,” said Jade.
“I know you don’t want to move,” Mom said.
“It seems wrong to move,” said Jade. “This move is going to wreck everything!”
“What if you are wrong? It could be great. Picture your new school.”

“How can I picture it? I have never even seen it.”

“Picture how you would like it to be,” said Mom.
Jade thought of a school with friendly kids.
“It still seems wrong to move,” she said.
Jade’s favorite picture was still on the wall. “Wrap that up,” said Mom. “After we move, you can unwrap it first. It will help you feel at home.”
That night, Jade had a bad dream. At her new school, people were not friendly. No one even spoke to her. She got lost in the hallways. It was all wrong.
When the move was all over, Jade set up her room. She hung her favorite picture on the wall.
Mom knocked.

“Your room looks great,” Mom said.

“I think so, too,” said Jade. “But I don’t know if I can go to school. I feel sick.”
“It will be great,” said Mom. “You have a knack for meeting people.”
At school, a boy came up to Jade. He seemed friendly.

“I am Jayden,” he said. “What’s wrong?”

“I am new,” she said. “I don’t know where to go.”

“I can help,” he said.
Jayden showed Jade the school. She even met other kids.

“It’s great you could move here!” said Jayden.
“I didn’t know I would like my new school so much!” said Jade.