

Playground Rescue

It was an **ordinary** day. Jo was on her own in the backyard, kicking a football into the **makeshift** goal that she'd once scratched into the wall with the edge of a sharp stone. She was dreaming of a time when she would play for the local football team again. Raja was covered in paint. She'd been busy **occupying** her brothers and sisters while her mum tried to get her work done, and Sammy, in the meantime, slept **soundly** in his basket. One of his enormous ears had flopped over his eye, his favourite squeaky bacon toy was trapped beneath a podgy paw and his droopy eyelids **flickered** as he chased wasps in his dreams.

Activity in the local park was ordinary too, or so it seemed. Children played on the playground whilst adults chattered, groups of teenagers were **gathering**, and joggers **sprinted** along the paths.

"HELP! HELP!" came a sudden shout from the playground.

Jo's legs and feet began to tingle. Raja's drawing hand pulled her towards a paint brush and Sammy stretched, turned over noisily and went back to sleep! As Jo and Raja left their homes, they changed. Jo Awesome's blue cape glided behind her as she dashed towards the park, **activating** her super-booster to help her get there more quickly. Raja Extraordinary's red cuffs glowed as she desperately held onto the flying paintbrush.

They arrived at the park at the same time, "What's the problem?" panted Jo.

"Follow me!" Raja called over her shoulder as the paintbrush dragged her towards the playground.

As Raja and Jo reached the edge of the playground, they could see that a crowd had gathered at the bottom of the spider's web climbing frame. Children giggled and pointed, and adults stared up in silence. "Look!" whispered Jo, nodding her head towards the top of the spider's web.

Raja followed her gaze up to a small, **snivelling** child who was dangling from the top of the climbing frame with one hand, about to fall!

"This one's mine!" declared Jo ...

Quick as a flash, Raja painted a mini trampoline which Jo used to bounce up and over the crowd and then grabbed the child as she somersaulted them both down to safety. With the crowd's whoops and cheers buzzing in their ears, Jo raced home while Raja flew back to her house on the flying carpet she'd painted. Jo returned to ordinary Jo playing keepy-uppy in the back yard and Raja returned to ordinary Raja cleaning up the painting mess she'd left behind.

And as for Sammy, an alarm sounded in his head and his ears pricked up. Someone somewhere was crying. They needed to talk and Sammy Exceptional to listen...