

1– *Hey Abel, look here ! Mum has bought a flower for us to plant it in our garden.*

– *How so ? a flower in a paper bag ?* Abel is surprised ; *I guess it must rather be a bulb.*

– *What about going out and planting it right now ?* Bellina asks, full of enthusiasm.

– *Great !* Abel answers cheerfully. *But we should get dressed first.*

2-Abel and Bellina both put warm clothes on before going out. Even with such a blue sky, it's chilly outside. One must get well dressed not to catch a cold. First, Abel puts his cap and boots on. Then he goes for his shovel and wheelbarrow in the garage. As for Bellina, she gets her cap and boots as well.

– *Dad gave me the gardening gloves which were in the drawer,* she says.

The paper bag and its precious bulb have been carefully slid into her pocket.

3– *Where shall we plant our flower ?* Bellina asks.

– *She must be in a sunny place all day long in order to get light and warmth,* Abel answers.

*These are the instructions I read on the paper-bag.*

– *Ok, how about planting it right here ?* his sister replies and shows a place next to the southern wall of their house.

– *Great ! I'm going to dig a hole for our bulb,* he concludes.

4- Thrilled with his digging with the shovel, Abel starts throwing earth around.

– *Ouch ! Stop it, Abel ! You've been throwing away earth right into my face !* Bellina cries.

*Moreover, we'll need some later on, to fill up our hole.*

– *You're right ! I'm so sorry, that hadn't occurred to me,* Abel replies.

5- Now, Abel is exhausted after all this shoveling.

– *I didn't know digging a hole would be so tiring,* he miserably admits.

This time, he's been very careful about not throwing earth away : he's piled it up next to his hole.

– *Here is a perfect hole,* Bellina admits. *Let's go and plant our bulb.*

6-She gently opens the paper bag and takes out the small white bulb ; she puts it into the hole most delicately.

– *Here we are,* she says. *Let's cover it up gradually with earth.*

– *While you'll be doing so, I'll go for water to spray over it,* Abel suggests.

7- As a matter of fact, carrying a watering can isn't that easy. Abel has filled it up to the brim and tells to himself :

– *Next time, I won't do it that way and will only get half of it. The can will be less heavy to carry and I won't get soaked with water.*

Watch out Abel, You might catch a cold !

8– *Here is something to drink, little bulb,* Abel says, even though half drenched with water.

– *Not too much,* Bellina replies, *it might get rotten.*

His brother pours some water and shivers because the water-can is so heavy.

– *You think that's enough, Bellina ?* he asks his sister.

– *A bit more,* she suggests.

9- Abel wonders why the flower doesn't grow out, maybe for lack of water.

– *Now, be patient Abel,* she answers. *It requires time, light, warmth and water for a plant to grow.*

– *I won't see her today ?* Abel feels so sorry about it.

– *No,* his sister replies, *but be patient and don't worry, time goes fast. Let's pick up the empty paper bag. I advise as well you to go and change clothes if you don't plan to catch a cold.*