

Red to the Rescue!

Chapter 4

It seemed like a long drive home. Josh sat in the back of the car looking through all his new clothes. Nothing was blue, apart from a new pair of walking socks. He had a new green fleece, black waterproof trousers, grey walking boots and a **RED** waterproof jacket.

“Don’t worry,” said Dad, smiling. “You only need to wear the jacket if it’s cold and wet. The weather forecast is good for the next few days.”

They arrived back home, joined by Ned and his dad who wanted to make the final arrangements for the following day and to check that they had everything that they needed.

Mum was very surprised to see all the different colours that Josh would be wearing on the trip and was even more surprised to see the **RED** jacket.

Josh had forgotten all about his new colourful clothes as he and Ned were busy playing football in the back garden. Suddenly, Ned took a run at the ball, kicking it hard towards Josh and falling backwards onto the grass. Ned sat up and grabbed his foot. As he stood up, he winced and limped to the side of the garden.



“Are you OK, Ned?” asked Josh.

“Yes, I’ll be fine,” he said, smiling and rubbing his ankle.

Just then, Ned’s dad arrived with an armful of tent pegs, and they both jumped in the car and headed for home.

The rest of the evening was spent packing their bags, putting everything that they needed into the back of the car and going over the route that they would be walking up the Cat Bells the following day. Josh was so excited, and he felt so grown up; he had never walked up a fell before.

It was soon time for bed, as they had a very early start the next day. They had to meet Ned and his dad at the Fell Walker Café in time for breakfast and the start of the walk. All Josh could think about was the long walk as he tried hard to shut his eyes and get to sleep.

In the morning, with everything already loaded in the back of the car and their rucksacks on the back seat, Josh and his dad were soon on the motorway and heading for Cumbria.

They didn’t have too long to drive before they arrived at the Fell Walker Café where Ned and his dad were already tucking into a big breakfast. It was a cool start to the day with a few black clouds in the distance.



“The forecast has changed,” said Ned’s dad. “Looks like we might have some wet weather later. We’d better make a start as soon as we can.”

Josh and his dad were soon tucking into their big breakfasts too, laughing and chatting about all the things they were going to do on their walk. But as they jumped down from the table, Josh noticed that Ned winced in the same way he had done the day before when he fell on the grass.

“Are you OK, Ned?” Josh asked.

“I’m fine,” replied Ned, rubbing his ankle. “I think it’s just my new boots.”

It wasn’t long before they were all checking their rucksacks and making sure that they had everything ready for the walk.

“You need to put on your waterproofs, lads,” said Ned’s dad. “We might be in for a shower later.”

Josh slowly slipped his arms into his red jacket, trying hard not to think about the colour.

“Wow!” said Ned’s dad with a big smile. “We won’t lose you up there, will we?”

Off they set, laughing and cheering as they raced towards the top of the fell, and two hours later, there they all stood: at the top of the Cat Bells.

Ready to rest and eat their packed lunch, they all sat huddled together as the sky started to get darker.

“Better eat up quick and set off soon,” said Josh’s dad. “The weather is starting to change, and all the other walkers look like they’re heading back, too.”

But as they stood up ready to set off, they heard a cry from Ned. He rubbed his ankle, winced and sat back down.

Everyone looked round.

“I can’t walk,” he said. “It’s my ankle. It really hurts!”