

The Yes She Gives Twice



Nussbaum Mind

Illustration coming soon

Ages 6-9



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Chapter 1: The first yes

At morning recess, Tova stands by the painted wall with her hands ready to clap.

"Chavi, will you do the new clapping rhyme with me at lunch recess? I practiced the hard verse."

Chavi loves the new rhyme. The last verse speeds up until nobody can keep up.

"Yes," she says. "I'll be there."

Tova smiles so widely that her hair clip slides crooked.

Chapter 2: The second yes

In the lunchroom, Chavi eats her sandwich beside Sury.

Sury leans close. "I made a bead snake. It needs a tail. Will you help me at lunch recess? I'll wait by the fence."

Chavi looks at the little snake in Sury's hand. It has red, green and one yellow bead.

"Yes!" she says. "I'll help."

The word is already out when she remembers the rhyme.



Chapter 3: The tight feeling

Chavi keeps eating, but the sandwich tastes like paper.

She has said yes to Tova. She has said yes to Sury. Both yeses are for lunch recess.

She could wait and see. Maybe one friend will forget. Maybe it will rain.

Chavi knows rain would not fix it. Somebody would still be waiting for her.

Her stomach feels tight, like a shoelace pulled too hard.

Chapter 4: Mrs. Katz

After lunch, Chavi walks slowly to the door. Mrs. Katz, the recess teacher, stands there with her whistle and a navy sheitel that covers all her hair.

"Chavi, you look like someone carrying a heavy backpack with nothing in it."

"I said yes to two people for the same time."

Mrs. Katz nods. "Can you be in two places?"

"No."

"Then there is a problem to tell them about. It is easier before anyone starts waiting."

Chavi looks at the yard. Tova is already by the wall. Sury is by the fence.

"What do I say?"



"What is true?"

Chavi thinks. "I said yes twice. I can't do both at once."

"Start there."

Chapter 5: Telling Tova

Chavi walks to the painted wall first.

"Tova, I have to tell you something. I said yes to you, and then I also said yes to Sury for the same time. I should have remembered you before I answered her."

Tova's smile gets smaller. "Oh."

"I'm sorry. I can clap the rhyme with you for the first half of recess, and then help Sury for the second half. Or we can do it another day. Which would you like?"

Tova kicks a little pile of sand.

"I wanted the whole recess," she says.

"I know. I can't give you the whole recess now."

Tova thinks for a moment. "First half is okay. But tomorrow, we do the fast verse again."

"Tomorrow I'll ask you first," Chavi says.



Chapter 6: Telling Sury

Chavi runs to the fence.

"Sury, I need to tell you something. I said I would help with your snake, but I also promised Tova to do the rhyme with her. I'm coming after the first half of recess. Is that okay?"

Sury frowns at the snake.

"I wanted to start now," she says.

"I can't start now. I can start after the rhyme. I'm sorry I said yes without checking my other promise."

Sury sighs. Then she shrugs. "I'll start the tail myself. You can do the last beads."

"I'll bring the last beads," Chavi says. "I'll need a few minutes."

Sury is not smiling, but she is not walking away either.

Chapter 7: The two halves

Chavi claps beside Tova, faster and faster, until Mrs. Katz blows the whistle.

She says, "Time for my other promise."

Tova waves her off. "Go."

At the fence, Sury has already made a short tail. Chavi adds three yellow beads and two green ones. They are not perfect. The tail is a little crooked.



Sury holds it up. "It looks like it is wiggling."

Chavi feels her shoulders come down.

She doesn't make both friends as happy as they would be with the whole recess. She doesn't keep both whole promises. But both friends know what is true, and she keeps the part she can.

Tomorrow, before she says yes to anyone, she will think of her other plans first. And if she forgets, she will say so early.



Which came first?

Number the cards in story order.

Chavi tells Tova about the second promise.

Chavi says yes to Tova for the clapping rhyme.

Chavi says yes to Sury for the same time.

Chavi adds beads to the snake.

Mrs. Katz asks what is true.



Fact or hope?

Mark FACT for what the story shows. Mark HOPE for a thought Chavi could wait on.

Story statement	FACT	HOPE
Chavi said yes to two friends for lunch recess.	☐	☐
Maybe one friend will forget.	☐	☐
Somebody would still be waiting.	☐	☐
Maybe it will rain.	☐	☐



Say what is true

Choose the reply that says the plain fact. Rewrite one other reply in your own words.

Reply	What the friend hears
☐ I said yes twice. I can't do both at once.	
☐ Maybe later. We will see.	
☐ You asked at a bad time.	

One clearer reply



What can Chavi offer?

Draw a path through offers she can really keep.

Start

Clap the rhyme with Tova
for the first half.

Help Sury after the first
half.

Be in two places at once.

Ask Tova first tomorrow.

Say nothing and hope.

A promise Chavi can
keep



Check before yes

Use a fictional child. Write or tell what to check before saying yes to a friend.

Something to check before saying yes

A way to say wait while I check



Keep the part you can

Read the reminders with an adult. Choose one that fits. Final stickers are 2 1/4-inch squares.

**Check before
yes**

Say it early

**Offer what you
can do**

**Sorry can be
plain**

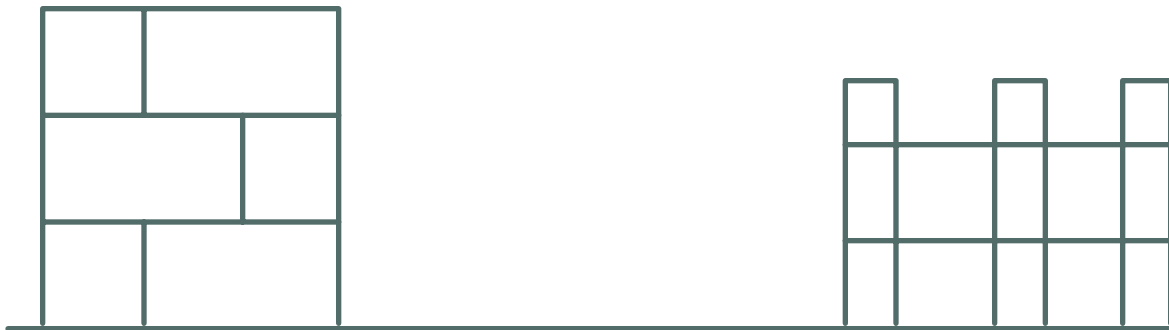
**Keep the part
you can**

**Ask first
tomorrow**



Two friends, one recess

Draw a yard with a painted wall on the left and a fence on the right. Add Chavi halfway between. Caption what she says.



What Chavi says



Find the promise words

Find YES, TELL, TRUE, HALF, RHYME, SNAKE, SORRY, PLAN.
All go left to right. Tell one word's part in the story.

Y	E	S	X	P	L	Z	Q	R	B
Q	T	E	L	L	M	V	W	D	C
Z	T	R	U	E	K	B	H	X	F
H	A	L	F	P	J	G	Q	W	D
X	R	H	Y	M	E	B	D	M	C
K	S	N	A	K	E	X	P	Z	B
V	S	O	R	R	Y	Q	D	F	G
X	P	L	A	N	Q	M	Z	K	H
B	D	Q	M	W	X	C	F	G	J
P	K	Z	V	B	H	D	Q	X	M

YES**TELL****TRUE****HALF****RHYME****SNAKE****SORRY****PLAN**

One word's part in the story



Parent notes and answers

Discussion questions:

What did Chavi promise each friend?

What did she do first, hide it or tell?

What true sentence did Mrs. Katz help her say?

What did each friend want that she could not fully give?

How did Chavi keep the part she could?

Parent tool: A child can notice a double promise early, say the plain fact, offer what is actually possible and let a friend feel disappointed without hurrying to fix the feeling. Model checking other plans before saying yes. Do not make a child responsible for removing every friend's sadness.

1. Listed order 4, 1, 2, 5, 3.
2. FACT: two yeses, same time, rain would not fix, somebody would wait. HOPE: one friend forgets, it rains.
3. Plain fact: I said yes twice. I can't do both at once. Not plain: vague hints, blaming a friend, hoping it passes.
4. Useful nodes: Clap the rhyme with Tova for the first half; Help Sury after the first half; Ask Tova first tomorrow. Not useful nodes: Be in two places at once; Say nothing and hope.
5. Open. Examples: Did I already promise this time? Can I ask my teacher? Can I say, let me check first?
6. Open. Disappointment can stay while a promise is repaired. Children do not have to make everyone happy.
7. Open. Show a calm yard, no crowd or accident.
8. YES: row 1, column 1, right; TELL: row 2, column 2, right; TRUE: row 3, column 2, right; HALF: row 4, column 1, right; RHYME: row 5, column 2, right; SNAKE: row 6, column 2, right; SORRY: row 7, column 2, right; PLAN: row 8, column 2, right