

# Block Castle

Story by Pearl Poon



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## Characters



Henry



Karen



Teacher



Square-eyed Girl



Guard



Uncle Sam



Candy Monster

Henry was a little trouble maker in the class. He always failed to observe discipline and made jokes on everything. When answering the teacher's questions, he deliberately said irrelevant answers that made the class laugh. His classmates were thus unable to concentrate and that gave the teacher bad headaches.



The teacher arranged a front seat for Henry. Naughty Henry placed the book upright to hide himself behind it. He secretly drew cartoons or even played games with his mobile phone under the desk.





Henry liked block puzzle games very much. One day when he was playing and passed the two highest levels, he simply forgot he was in the class. "Oh!" He exclaimed and made the classmates next to him jump! Eventually, the teacher took away his mobile phone.



The teacher said to Henry,  
"Students have the responsibility  
to concentrate in their lessons.  
At school, it is necessary to  
observe discipline and respect  
others! If everyone is causing  
trouble like you,  
how could we  
study properly?"

Henry lowered his head without  
saying a word. He did not want  
to hear the teacher's advice but  
just wanted to get the mobile  
phone back as soon as possible.



After class, the school bus came to pick up the students. Henry was in a rush to get on the bus and take a front seat. He then started eating snacks and behaving rowdily.



"Your snacks are making the seat dirty." Karen stared at Henry sitting next to her.

Turning his face away, Henry did not bother at all. Karen then complained to the driver Uncle Sam.





Henry said, "I have the freedom to eat snacks. It's none of your business!"

Since Uncle Sam was in a hurry, he did not know what to do with Henry at the time. He just drove off after consoling Karen.



Summer breeze came through the windows making everyone sleepy ... In drowsiness, Henry heard the broadcast, "This is Block Castle. Passengers please get off the bus."



"Wow, Block Castle!" Henry was in excitement. He got off the bus and entered a massive castle built with blocks in different colours like the animated ones in his games. The guard at the castle entrance had a square head and helmet. It was so funny!





A group of square-eyed children were moving some large square bricks. Henry approached them and asked, "Is this a game?"

One of the square-eyed girls looked at him and put her second finger on her lips. She said quietly, "We are guarding our home. Please don't raise your voice, or the enemies will find us!"





Henry was very excited and wanted to join in. The square-eyed girl passed over a square box and told him what to do.

"We have to put the white bricks into the box and move them to the south side of the castle. Then stack the blocks in order to build a wall according to the rule. The job must be done before sunset, otherwise ..."



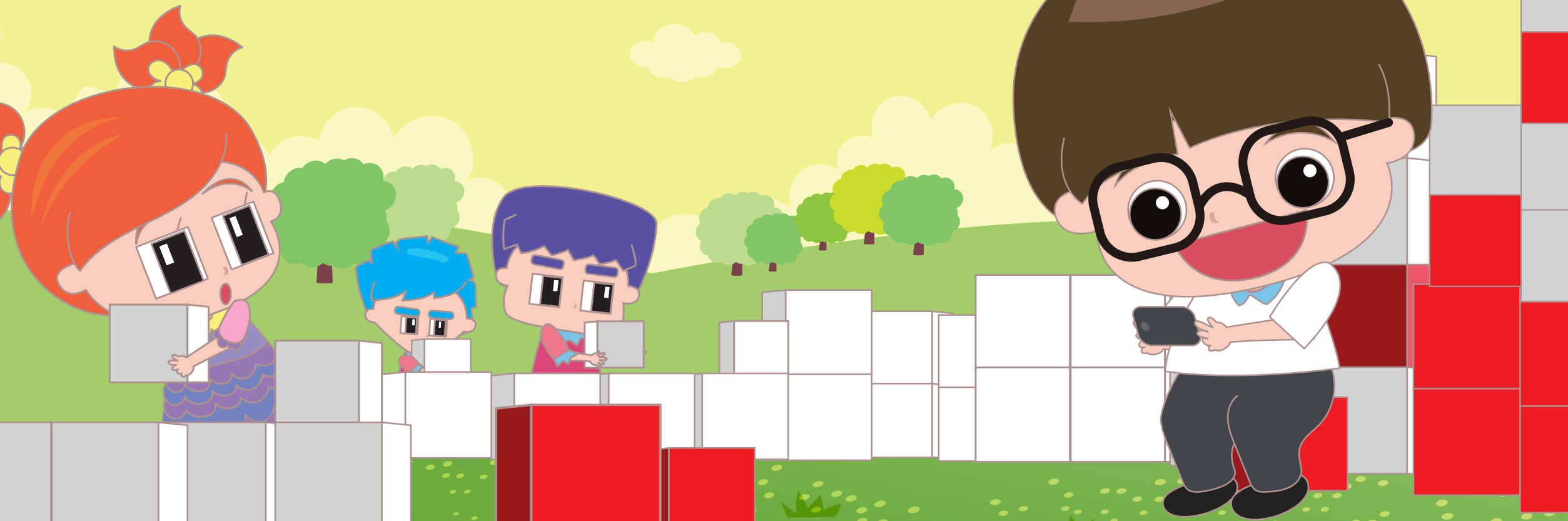
Henry unmindfully responded and thought, "Stacking blocks is a piece of cake." However, the bricks were of different sizes and unexpectedly heavy.

After making strenuous efforts to move them to the south side of the castle, Henry was already sweating all over and wanted to take a break. He took out the mobile phone and shouted when playing with it.



Then the square-eyed girl warned Henry, "Keep quiet! If you disturb others like that, we could not accomplish the wall-building task in time. You would also draw our enemies' attention! Besides, we have to move the white bricks, not the red ones!"

Henry ignored her and thought to himself, "I like the red ones. I'm free to choose. What's the problem?"



Henry put down his mobile phone and stacked the blocks casually. A while later, he was feeling hungry. Then he took out the snacks and sweets to eat and was dropping the crumbs all over the place.

"Didn't you see the sign? No food and drink here!" The guard at the castle entrance spoke anxiously.



At this moment, Candy Monster awoke from his slumber and rushed straight towards the castle. It was Henry's sweets and distinctive red blocks that had drawn the attention of Candy Monster. Seeing Candy Monster coming fiercely, everyone began running away.



"Get on the horse cart and escape!" The guard commanded. The children all followed the instruction to get on the cart except Henry. He jumped the queue and slowed down everyone.





Candy Monster swallowed the sweets and the red blocks quickly. The brick wall was about to crumble away! Some loosened blocks fell and hit Henry's head ...



"Oh, help! Help!" Henry cried and woke up from his dream.



He was scared recalling the scene of the falling block wall and everyone fleeing. He blamed himself for just wanting to have fun instead of following the rules and fulfilling his responsibilities.





The school bus stopped. Uncle Sam reminded Henry, "Don't eat and drink on the bus again. Keep the compartment clean, or ants and cockroaches will come to get you!"

Henry looked a bit embarrassed. He immediately picked up the rubbish and put it in the bin.



When getting off the school bus, Henry let Karen and other children go first. Uncle Sam praised that Henry was a good boy. Henry now realised that keeping order and showing courtesy were more efficient than pushing and shoving!



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