

Hey all you kids and kids at heart! Welcome back to the “Different isn’t Bad” podcast. A podcast your family can trust.

Around here kids are important and different isn’t bad, it’s just different!

Have you ever heard the expression “April showers bring May flowers”? Well in the southwest where Miss Robin lives “March showers bring April flowers” and lots and lots of sneezing!

In today’s episode Lucy the dog and Stubby the cat find out what makes them sneeze. Join me as we listen to, The Big Sneeze.

Here we go!

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The Big Sneeze

By Robin Marie Johnson

“Ah....chew!” Sneezed Lucy the dog as she dug a hole in the ground.

It was Spring. The grass was green and the flowers were blooming. It was one of the prettiest times of the year.

Lucy loved the Spring, except for one BIG thing. She couldn't stop sneezing!

“Ah.....chew! Ah.....chew!” Lucy sneezed again as her best friend Stubby the cat looked on from his comfortable bed under the big green tree.

“That was quite a sneeze.” Stubby yawned.

“I’m allergic to dust.” Lucy replied.

“Ah...chew!”

Dirt was flying everywhere as Lucy continued to dig, wiping her nose as it drip, drip, dripped into the hole she dug.

“Why do you need to dig holes?” Stubby asked as the dust rose into the air.

“It’s what dogs are supposed to do.”

“Ah...chew! Ah...chew! Ah...chew!”

Lucy shook her head trying to stop the sneezing but it only made things worse.

“Why don’t you stop digging for awhile and join me under the tree where it’s cool and less dusty.” Stubby invited.

“Stop digging for awhile? Well alright maybe then I wouldn’t sneeze.” Lucy said

Covering the hole back up with dirt Lucy followed Stubby relaxing under the big Oak tree letting the cool breeze blow the dust off their faces.

“See, isn’t this better?” Stubby purred.

“No more sneezing.”

Lucy rolled over and wiggled around. She loved the smell of freshly cut green grass.

“You are right, Stubby. No dirt, no sneezing.”

“Ah...chew!”

It was the biggest sneeze Lucy had ever heard and it was coming out of Stubby's mouth.

Lucy looked over to see Stubby with his paw over his mouth and a huge grin on his face.

“I’m allergic to grass.” Stubby sighed.

“Then why do you lay in it all day?” Lucy asked.

“Because that’s what cats are supposed to do.” Stubby replied.

Ha...Ha....Ha.....

“We are so silly they laughed. Then Lucy snuggled up next to Stubby smiling and they closed their eyes for an afternoon nap.

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Ok, kids and kids at heart. it’s time to connect! Remember to pause the podcast after each question and let everyone have a chance to share.

1. What made Lucy the dog sneeze?
2. Why do you think Lucy was digging a hole?
3. What made Stubby the cat sneeze?
4. Why do you think we sneeze more in the Spring?
5. What makes you sneeze?

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I hope you enjoyed the story today. I'd love to hear from you. Maybe you could share with me a story of your own.

Have your parents come with you and visit me at [www.robinmarie.org](http://www.robinmarie.org) and leave a comment or a story of your own on my website. When you visit you'll find coloring pages and pictures of Stubby and Lucy and lots of my favorite characters from my podcast stories.

Don't forget to come back next week for another episode of the Different Isn't Bad podcast for kids.

Have a great week full of adventures and don't forget to be brave, kind and different because different isn't bad it's just different.