**Two Homes for Sparkle**

Susan Perrow © 2020

*A story for a young child (three to five years) living in a separated family situation. The song at the end of the story could be used by both parents to help consistency for the child.*

Once upon a time, in a large rock pool by the beach, there was a family of little fish who lived together. All day long they would play happily, twisting and diving and slipping and sliding in their rock pool home.

One small shimmering fish was called Sparkle. She was learning from her brothers and sisters how to make a night-time bed in the coral rocks at the edge of the pool. They showed her how to gather seaweed to make her bed soft, so that she could sleep in it as cosy as can be.

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Plays and rests with her fishy family,*

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Has a seaweed bed as cosy as can be.*

One morning Sparkle was playing with her brothers and sisters when there was a rumbling sound in the sky. At first Sparkle took no notice but soon she joined the others as they swam to the top of the rock pool to see what was happening.

Dark clouds had begun to gather in the sky. Soon the thunder rumbled, and the lightening crashed. Rain began to fall, and the wind began to blow. The fish all huddled together in the middle of the pool to wait for the storm to pass. They were very quiet.

Suddenly there was great movement in their pool as giant waves crashed in, one after the other. For a long time, the waves tumbled into the rock pool. They were so strong that they washed half of the coral rocks away.

Eventually, the waves died down and the pool water cleared. Now the family of little fish could see what had happened. Because many of the coral rocks had been smashed, some of the fish family had to go and make their night-time beds in another rock pool close by. Fortunately, the storm had made a long tunnel through the side of the rock wall that led out of the first pool and into another one.

Sparkle thought it was rather exciting to travel through this rock tunnel and go and visit some of her family in the other pool. She gathered seaweed and made a soft bed there too, just in case she decided to sleep over.

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Has a seaweed bed as cosy as can be,*

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Shares two homes with her fishy family.*

Now the fish family lives in two rock pools, and little Sparkle has beds in two places, so that no matter which pool she stays in she always has a cosy place to sleep. And every time she travels through the rock tunnel, she always sings her cosy sleeping song.

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Has a seaweed bed as cosy as can be,*

*Shimmering swish, Sparkle the Fish*

*Shares two homes with her fishy family.*