## **Dragon Friends!**

"Bat at it!" Whiffy yelled. "I got it!" Dulep called. The dragonberry landed *SPLAT* on the cloud. "Oops." Dulep whispered. "Does anyone have another dragonberry?" Mestle asked them. Everyone said no. "Well, we could use my bouncy ball." Dulep suggested. Whiffy yawned and said, "Later. I want to take my nap before dinner." "Ok." Mestle said, "C'mon Dulep!" Dulep and Mestle hurried off as Whiffy flew home. At her cloudhouse, Whiffy put on her bedtime slippers, slid into bed and fell asleep.

Meanwhile, Dulep was rummaging through his toy chest, looking for his bouncy ball. Mestle stood on a chair looking very impatient. "Hurry up! Or we won't even have time to play!" "I'm trying, Mestle." "Dulep, we've been here for an hour!" Mestle complained. Dulep stopped rummaging and looked at his clock. "Actually, it's only been two minutes." They waited for another minute. "Found it!" Dulep called. He pulled out a BIG bouncy ball with happy faces painted all over it: "OOOOOOOOO." "Let's go play now, Dulep!" Mestle said.

"Whiffy! Whiffy! Time for dinner!" Whiffy's mom called. Whiffy sat up and rubbed her eyes. "I'm coming mom!" Whiffy replied. She got out of bed, took off her slippers, and took her dinner plate and fork out of her dragon pouch. Then she ran into the kitchen to see her mom serving dragonberry sandwiches. "Can I call Dulep and Mestle over, mom?" Whiffy asked. "Sure," Whiffy's mom said. "You can also ask them for a picnic over at Suncloud Lake." Whiffy's mom suggested. "Yes!" Whiffy cheered. She wrapped the sandwiches, plates and napkins in a tablecloth and ran out to get her friends.

"Dulep! Mestle! Where are you?" Whiffy called, searching around in the park. She went to the Sir Dragon statue and saw them trying to pull Dulep's bouncy ball out of Sir Dragon's tail spikes. "Help us!" Dulep grunted. Whiffy flicked her tail and brought over a cloud. It pushed Dulep and Mestle out of the way and easily got the ball out. "Thanks, Whiffy." Mestle sighed. Whiffy said "No problem. Want to have a picnic dinner? I got dragonberry sandwiches. Your favorite, Dulep. And I also have dragonberry juice, which is your favorite, Mestle." "YES!" Dulep and Mestle said together.

Whiffy led her friends to Suncloud Lake and pulled the tablecloth out on the clouds. Then she put out three plates, forks and napkins around on the tablecloth for each of the dragons. "Yum!" Dulep said as he put his napkin on his lap. Then he reached for his fork, but knocked it through the clouds. "Hey!" Dulep yelled. He made a clearing and saw a human kid rubbing his head and examining the fork. He closed the hole and asked,

"Should we go down there and just meet him?" "Sure." Whiffy said. She made another bigger clearing and flew down through it.

She landed with her friends on a tree to watch. "Is it raining forks now?" The boy wondered. Whiffy whispered, "Stay here. I'll wave to you when you can come out." She flew to the boy. "Hi!" "Dragon! Help!" the boy ran into a bush. "Sorry if I scared you." Whiffy said politely. The boy came out of the bush and said, "So you're not going to burn me up?" "No!" Whiffy laughed. The boy walked to Whiffy and said, "Hi, I'm Adam." "I'm Whiffy," Whiffy said. "You should meet my friends." Whiffy waved to them. They came out and said, "Hi, Adam!" Whiffy pointed to Mestle and said, "This is Mestle, and my other friend is Dulep." "Hi!" Adam said. Then he held the fork up and asked, "Where'd this fork come from?" "We were having a picnic on the clouds, which is our dragon world. Dulep accidentally dropped it." Mestle explained. "Want to come and play?" "Sure!" Adam said. "But I can't fly." "Climb on my back." Whiffy said. They flew up through the clearing.

"This is great!" Adam cheered. They landed next to the picnic and sat down. "I'm glad I brought an extra set." Whiffy said. She took out another set and gave it to Adam. They sat down and started eating. "These are yummy!" Adam said with a mouthful. "What's in them?" "It's dragonberry jam." Dulep replied.

Soon, everyone finished their sandwiches. "Yum!" Mestle said. Then Whiffy shouted, "Last one into Suncloud Lake is a rotten dragonberry!" They all ran in. They splish-splashed around in the lake and had races to see who could swim above water the fastest. Then Adam came out and said, "I'd better go. What time is it?" "It's 7:00pm." Mestle said. "Why?" "Cause my mom told me to go back home at 7:00." Adam got on Whiffy's back and flew down back to the ground. "Can I come back tomorrow at 2:00pm?" Adam asked. "Sure!" Dulep said. "Meet us here." Whiffy said. "Bye!" Mestle shouted as she flew back to the clouds. "See you tomorrow!" Whiffy said. "Bye!" Dulep waved. "Bye Whiffy! Bye Dulep! Bye Mestle!" Adam waved.

Everyone went back home, played with their family, ate snacks, then brushed teeth and went to bed. "Good night mom." Everyone said. Then Whiffy went back outside and sent out clouds to spell: **Goodnight**Adam! Then she went back to bed. Then everyone fell fast asleep.

The next morning, Whiffy woke up at 9:30am and said, "Oh! I need to meet Mestle, Dulep and Adam down on the ground at 2:00pm!" She hopped out of bed, brushed her teeth and warmed up her mouth with her fire breath for breakfast. At Mestle's cloudhouse, she woke up at 10:00am and said, "Meet Dulep, Whiffy

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and Adam on the ground at 2:00pm, remembered!" Then she got out of bed, brushed teeth and ran into her kitchen for breakfast. At Dulep's cloudhouse, he woke up at 10:30am and looked at his calendar:

Breakfast 11:00am

Soccer Practice 11:15am

Lunch 12:00

Meet Whiffy, Mestle and Adam 2:00pm

Afternoon school 3:30pm

Dinner 5:30pm

Flamerda Trip 7:00pm until next day 9:00pm

"Oh no! I have to leave at 7:00pm to Flamerda!" Dulep exclaimed. "But I'm glad I can still make it to meet Whiffy, Mestle and Adam." He got out of bed and brushed teeth. Then did his morning stretching until his mom called, "Dulep! Breakfast is getting cold!" "Coming, mom!" Dulep answered. He hopped into the kitchen.

At 2:00pm, Whiffy flew out onto the ground. Dulep came next. "I can't wait to play with Adam again today!" Whiffy exclaimed, flying around in happy circles. "Me too!" Dulep said. Soon, Whiffy heard someone running. "I hear someone." "Maybe it's Adam." Dulep wondered. In a minute, Adam came up to them, panting. "Sorry I'm late. My mom made me change from my swim class." "That's ok." Dulep said. "Where's Mestle?" Adam asked. "Right here!" Mestle shouted as she dived into a nearby tree. She came out with 4 dragonberry cupcakes. "I had to make these." She passed them out. After everyone ate their cupcakes, Adam climbed onto Whiffy's back, and they went into the clouds.

"Want to have a sleepover at my house tonight?" Whiffy asked. "Yeah!" Mestle cheered. "I can't, 'cause I have to go to Flamerda." Dulep said. "I don't know if my mom will let me." Adam said. "Can I go and ask?" "Sure!" Whiffy scooped him up and flew him down. Adam got off and ran home. A few minutes later, he came back shouting, "I can do it! I can do the sleepover! And I can stay from now to tomorrow 11:00 am. Almost a whole day!" Everyone cheered. Adam got back on Whiffy and flew up. They dropped everyone's things in Whiffy bedroom, except Dulep's.

"Hey!" Whiffy remembered. "Today we have afternoon school! Want to come, Adam?" "Yeah!" Adam answered. He hopped on Whiffy and they flew to the school. "Good afternoon, Mr. Wespler!" Everyone said as they put their things in their cubbies. Then they sat down on a circular rug. "Good afternoon, class. Gather around for sharing time." Mr. Wespler said.

Whiffy, Dulep, Mestle and some others raised their hands. Others shared things like finding 20 caterpoozles (basically caterpillars), having their first soccer practice, and things like that. Then it was Whiffy's turn. "Me, Dulep and Mestle made friends with a boy. This is Adam." "Hi, Adam!" Everyone waved. "Hi." Adam said. "We're having a sleepover at my cloudhouse." Whiffy explained. "We already got things set up." "Good, good." Mr. Wespler said. "Storytime, then playtime." They read 'Cinderdragon' (Cinderella).

Mr. Wespler opened three chests. Everyone crowded around to get the building blocks. There were ruby pyramids, gold bricks and pearl spheres. Everyone built towers, houses, and some even made 3 towers out of each block. Soon it was clean-up time. "Everyone sort the blocks by color." Mr. Wespler ordered. "That was fun." Adam said. "Yeah. Really fun." Mestle said.

Suddenly, a tall dragon knocked down a can of paint. The paint covered every block. Now they were all blue. "Oh no!" Dulep cried. "We'll never sort them if they're all the same color!" "Wait!" Whiffy called. "I know how to sort them. The rubies are the pyramids, the gold bricks are the rectangles, and the pearls are the balls!" Everyone used that strategy. It worked! "Good thinking, Whiffy." Mr. Wespler commented.

The bell rang. "School's out." Mestle exclaimed. Everyone got their things out of their cubbies and ran out. Adam got on Whiffy and they flew to Whiffy's cloudhouse. "It's sleepover time!" Whiffy cheered. Dulep went home. The others went to Whiffy's cloudhouse and ate dragonberry soup and juice for dinner. Then they went to Whiffy's bedroom and played family. Since Adam was not a dragon, they gave him a dragon costume. He played the baby. Whiffy was the older sister. Mestle was the mom. They played for an hour.

"Bedtime!" Whiffy's mom called. Everyone brushed their teeth and Adam changed into his pajamas. Whiffy turned on the night light and turned off the big light. "Goodnight Adam." Whiffy said. "Goodnight Whiffy, goodnight Mestle." Adam replied. The answer was Mestle snoring and saying, "Fun, at, school... lots of dragonberries..." She was talking in her sleep. The others laughed, crawled under their blankets, and fell asleep.

The next morning, everyone woke up at 11:00am. "We slept in late." Adam said. "I'd better go back home." He changed into his regular clothes, got on Whiffy, and all of them flew back to the ground. "Bye Whiffy. Bye Mestle." Then he took three packages out of his pocket. He gave each of the dragons one. They opened their packages and each took out a statue of dragons. "Thanks Adam! We'll give Dulep his!" They said. Then Adam ran home.

The dragons went home for lunch. Then they went to afternoon school and finished 'The Cinderdragon'. Whiffy sent a cloud to Adam. It had a piece of paper in it. It was the rest of the story for Adam to read. As he read it, the words made out pictures. They finished the day with dragonberry tossing. Then each dragon went home for dinner.

They went to the statue of Sir Dragon to play on the famous playground. Drum trampolines and xylophone slides. They played soccer and dragonball (basketball). They played and played for a long time. They had dragonberry snacks, they swam in Suncloud Lake, they played Whack-It-Back with Mestle's special whistler (Badminton). They played those things over and over and over and over and over and over and over again. "This is great!" Whiffy said. "I know." Mestle said. "But I wish Adam could stay and play more with us." Whiffy said, disappointed.

"Let's go to my house and play there!" Whiffy suggested. "C'mon, let's go!" Mestle rushed off. They raced to Whiffy's house and played for another while. Soon, Mestle had to go home. "Bye!" Mestle said. "See you tomorrow." Whiffy said. Mestle went home to bed. Whiffy sent out another goodnight cloud message. She got into bed, crawled under the covers, and they all fell asleep.