

Baseball caps were cool! Arjun had the coolest baseball cap in the class. It was black with bright bold white writing on the front. Tom was desperate for a baseball cap but his Mum said they were simply too expensive! Unfortunately, Tom understood that she couldn't afford a baseball cap (now that she had lost her job) but he wanted one so badly. 'Ring!' Loudly, the bell rang to signal the end of play and everyone dashed towards the line including Arjun who was getting a lot of attention because to his hat.

It was Tom's job to tidy up the play equipment and once he had collected the last hoop, he headed back to class. Everyone else was already inside, so quickly Tom took off his coat and went to hang it up. Suddenly, in the corner of his eye, Tom caught sight of Arjun's hat. It was hung up a few pegs down from his. Glancing back at the classroom door, he checked if anyone was watching - no one. Could he really take the hat? Would Arjun know it was him? Before he had thought a second more, he had shoved it into his own bag and slipped back into class.

For the rest of the afternoon, all Tom could think about was the baseball cap in his bag. When the bell rang for home time, Tom made sure he was first out of the door; first to his bag and first on his way home. As he strode away, he heard Arjun behind him declaring that his cap was missing. The journey home seemed to last forever. His bag seemed twice as heavy as usual. All he could think about was the baseball cap he had taken. The baseball cap he had **STOLEN!** Guilt began to fill Tom from head to toe. What was he doing? He had stolen Arjun's hat. His best friend's hat! What was he going to do? How was he going to tell Arjun the truth? By the time Tom had reached home, he had decided to take the hat back to school the next day and give it back to Arjun.

As the sun was rising in the sky, Tom made his way back to school. He was so nervous his hands were shaking. What if Arjun decided not to be his friend after what he had done? Tom arrived just as the school bell was ringing for registration. He had walked slowly due to his nerves - he really was not looking forward to seeing Arjun. As he approached the coat hooks, he noticed everybody was already inside the class. This was his chance! Quickly, he reached into Arjun's bag and shoved it inside. He had done it, he had returned the hat and no one would ever have to know! During his first lesson, Tom felt a great weight lift from him. No one would ever know what a terrible thing he had done.

Later that day, Tom was heading out to play. Arjun zoomed passed him in excitement. "Look Tom, I've found my hat!" Just at that second, Tom's teacher (Mr Cooper) grabbed his attention. 'You did the right thing!' he whispered whilst smiling... He knew! Mr Cooper knew! But for some reason Tom was not upset that someone knew what he had done. Instead, he felt proud. Proud that in the end, he had made the right choice! Everybody makes mistakes he thought, but it is how you correct the mistake, that really matters.