

PhotoClub for Special Children



SUSAN COMING HOME

It was a big event for the Norman family. Their older daughter Susan came home after finishing her studies in college. She did not visit home for a long time, except for a couple of short breaks. This time she intended to stay at home longer before she'd leave again to another place to start her job. She missed her family so much and everybody missed her.

Big meal was expected for relatives and friends

Mr Norman came to his son Benny's room. Benny, as usual, was sitting by the computer and watching his favorite movie.

"O, again those guys! Are you not tired of them, Benny?" asked Father

"Come Dad, look here. Now Robert would come from the room where he is hiding and would shut Mr Green. But he'd miss it and would make a hole in the wall. Look!"

"I see, Benny and I saw it many times already- said Mr. Norman-Benny, could I ask you a favor, please shut off the computer. I need to talk to you. Badly, please"

Benny loved his father. He could not see him often though. Mr Norman worked 6 days a week to provide for his family. Day #7 was devoted to the household needs.

Since the Norman family learned that Benny has autism, Mrs Norman, Benny's mother could not work any more as she needed to spend time with Benny helping him with different things. Then a new baby came along

So, Mr Norman had to work all the time providing for a big family

Benny wanted to please father, he shut off his computer

-Benny, you know your older sister Susan is coming home today. We miss her so much. We bought her a present and

I want you to give it to her. A present from our family.
Could you do this for me?

-Sure dad, what is in that box? Can I see? –Benny almost didn't remember Susan and her coming home didn't affect him at all. But he was curious about the present

- No, it should be closed. It's a very nice new photo camera which has great zoom and other interesting features, it even can make movies.

Mr Norman loved electronics and could not hold himself to describe the new camera he spent a long time choosing. Benny didn't understand a thing , but it's not the first time Mr Norman shared his fascination with electronics with his autistic son. Mr Norman often shared with his son things which the boy had not understood. He wanted to be with his son, but didn't know how to relate to him. Benny was such an unusual boy. But Benny always listened to his father no matter what. Just being with the father was so good.

-How to spell “camera” c-a-m-e-r-a ? He asked when father finished

It was latest “hobby” Benny got-he wanted to spell everything what came to his mind and did the same words over and over

-Not now Benny, Please- begged for mercy Mr Norman-I’m so tired

-I'm sure Susan will show you the camera....and will help with the spelling, but now we should wrap the present up in this nice paper. Please, bring the scotch. We will tape it up. I'll put it in my room and tell you when to present it to Susan.. Thank you, son. I need to go to help mom.

He left.

Benny opened his computer.

Soon he was destroyed by loud noise outside the house. It was a taxi which brought his sister Susan home. Then later a lot of guests came. Then father told him when to give the present to Susan and Benny did everything all right. Susan brought him a magnetic Lego that they had in school and Benny loved to play with. He felt very nice with Susan coming home after all

BENNY BECOMING BRAVE

Next day Susan came to his room. "Hi Benny! What is up!"

S-y-s-e-n. How to spell Susan?"

Susan did the right spelling. When Susan left home Benny was a small boy in constant tantrums, unable to talk and Susan had no interest in spending time with him. She preferred to stay away. She even was embarrassed to bring her friends home because of Benny's bad behavior . Now she was pleasantly surprised to find her brother as a big boy whom she'd like to know better and spent some time with. Mom suggested they go to a nearby park.

- Only please, Susan watch him very carefully when crossing the road and in the part
- OK. Mom. Benny, let's go to the park -suggested Susan. Benny loved parks. He quickly shut the computer and they left the house

IN THE PARK

On the way to park Benny kept repeating or asking spelling different words over and over, but he knew the way to park very well and explained it to Susan in all the details. We go straight till the corner, then we'll turn right,

then cross the road, look both sides. When Susan suggested taking another, shorter way, Benny strongly resisted.

-No, not that way

Susan said –QK. Benny, sure you know better how to go to the park. Let's keep going.

When they came to the park Benny went to the swings. Susan wanted to push him high, but he screamed "No, no, not so much, a little bit"

Susan took her new camera along to the park. After swings she suggested Benny to go to "monkey bar", but Benny refused. She asked him to climb on the top of high slides, but he refused. Susan realized that Benny is afraid of everything. She knew that their mom was overprotective, so she probably tried to protect Benny from everything which could be even a little bit dangerous.

Suddenly she got the idea. "Benny, come sit on that bench",. When he did she took a picture of him, then she asked him to pose for a couple of more pictures.

"Come here Benny-look what great pictures I made of you.

Benny was fascinated with what she made, but mostly he was fascinated by a new camera and tried to touch different buttons and the screen

- "Could I also take some pictures?-he asked.

-Maybe some day, Benny, not today. but now I'd like to make a very nice picture of you

And Susan asked Benny to do something he never did before. She saw that he felt a little bit unsure of himself, but obviously the desire to see himself in pictures made him do it. After she did, they looked at the picture together. Benny loved it so much that he started to ask Susan to take more pictures of him doing different things. Eventually he got to the biggest slide and Susan took a picture of him waving his hand from the very top. They had a great time in Park. Benny got more brave and suggested different ideas for posing and did things he never did before.

When mom saw ready pictures she was shocked.

"How you could go there, Benny-she kept complaining -you could fall , you could hurt yourself"

"Mom,-Susan was upset with mom,-stop there. He is a big brave boy now.

"I'm a big boy, ma,-said Benny,-and soon we'll go to park again. Susan promised me that

Father came very late and was tired, but when he saw pictures his mood was elevated. Benny was already sleeping tired and happy

"You made him do all those things?,- Father was impressed-O, Susan, You are great. Maybe you could do something to get him away from those stupid movies he watches on the computer all the time. You know I'm so busy with work and house and since your baby-sister was born mom almost doesn't have time for Benny.

"I'll try",-said Susan. She opened her computer and started to read about autism in order to understand better her younger brother

MR. GREEN and THE COMPANY

Next day she woke up later and the first thing she did was go to Benny's room. He was watching a movie on the computer.

-Hi bro, What are you watching there?

-Come, come, you see now this man Robert will enter the store. He has a gun. Mr Green doesn't give him his money

-Yea, I see. Who is that with him?

It's Tanya, his girlfriend. The boss cheated him , took all his money. See, see Robert is smart. He hides himself while his girlfriend distracts the salesman. Robert is a good man, but he is poor. Mr Green is very bad.

-Yea, really very clever of Robert to try to get his money back. Let's go, mom calls us to eat.

After lunch they went for a walk. Benny kept asking spelling questions.

Then they made a break , sat down and Susan got a pen and paper

-Benny, tell me again about those people from the movie. What are their names ?

They made a list . There were 4 main heroes. Benny knew their names, but had trouble with spelling. Susan helped him with that

- Listen Benny, I have an idea. Let's make another story with those guys. Instead of constant fighting, beating or killing each other they would be very helpful to each other. And also will do good things for other people. What do you think?

Benny liked the idea. And he loved to spend time with his sister. He was so happy that she came home. Then Susan asked Benny to describe those people-how they look like-tall or short, fat a skinny, dark or light skinned

Susan was surprised that Benny knew everything till the very small details. He must be spending an awful amount of time with them.

Susan got notebook and a pen

-Please remind me of the name of that nasty guy from the story you watch on the computer? Who never gives money he owns to people. I'm not surprise some people want to kill him

-Who? Mr Green?

-Right Mr Green. What does he look like?

-He is a rich man

-Yes, I remember he is very rich. And is he a tall or short man?

-He is not very tall

-Ok. Is he fat or skinny?

Benny started to laugh.

-He is very fat. He has a big belly

-Does he have hair. ? -asked Susan-I think he is bold

-No. He does have hair. Grey.

-OK, now we have a portrait of Mr Green. O! One more question-is he a young or old person?

-He is an old one

-O, right, because only old people have gray hair. So, now we have our Mr Grey portrait-he is an old and fat, short man with gray hair. O, how he usually dressed? In a suit? He looks nice?

-He wears jeans

- Ok, now let's move to his assistant Frank. How does he look?

-Frank is angry. He beats Robert

-I see, probably Mr Green told him to do it

-Mr Green is his boss

- OK, what does Frank look like? Frank is tall? Is he fat?

-No, Frank is skinny. He is very tall

-What about his hair?

-He has long red hair. He makes a tail from them. He wears blue t-shirt and black shorts

-Great description Benny. Now we have to describe his character. Does he do everything Mr. Green tells him? Is he an obedient guy?

-Mr Green told him to hide money from Robert and he did. Robert needed his money otherwise he could not pay the rent and he and Tanya would be homeless.

Susan saw that Benny understood pretty well what was happening in the movie and what was good and bad. It was inspiring. She really enjoyed spending time with him. She didn't expect to find such a pleasant surprise .

-O, I see Robert and Tanya are poor people. Wait a second Benny, do not rash. I have to write them down. One person at a time. Please be patient with me, OK. Let's first finish with Frank. Where does he live? Does he have a house on his own?

When they wrote down all 4 heroes from Benny's favorite movie it was already time to go home.

-Wow! Benny, you are great, you could be a good writer! Benny smiled happily. They rushed home for supper

BENNY BECOMING a PHOTOGRAPHER

Next day Susan told Benny: - Quickly eat breakfast and let's go. I have a surprise for you.

-Hurray!- screamed Benny. With Susan coming Benny's life became very exciting and he loved that.

Benny quickly finished breakfast and they went outside. It was summer-warm and pleasant. Susan sat on the grass and invited Benny to do the same. She took something from her bag. It was a little photcamera.

-It's my old camera. It makes good pictures. Now it's yours.

-My camera? For always?

-Yours brother, forever. You are such a big smart guy. You need to have your own camera now.

Benny was happy. Benny took a camera and wanted to play with buttons.

-Wait a minute. Let me show you how it works. Benny, do you see the red smiling face? That would be the button you are supposed to push to take pictures.

Here is where the camera gets open and close. You are going to look and see what you want to photograph. It's called "screen" . Lets first take a picture of me. Susan stood in front of camera

-Look at the screen. What do you see there?

- I see you-screamed Benny joyfully

-Push the red button

Benny did

Now let's see how it came out. Susan showed Benny the result.

-You made a couple of mistakes. Now we will be fixing them. First look here. It's a lens. Please remember

Mistake #1 “Never cover the lens with your fingers.”

For that you need to learn how to hold the camera the right way. Let's try together. Great, that would be good

Your next mistake you should tell me yourself

Benny laughed “I cut off your arm. You only have one”

“Right answer. Benny, I feel that you’d be a great photographer!

Mistake #2 “Do not cut important things!”

And now mistake number 3. Look carefully. Benny laughed again

-You are falling down there, Susan

-And you know what Benny?

-What?

- You are right again! What a brother I have, a genius!

Mistake #3 “Keep the camera straight!”

-Now we will correct all the mistakes. You should look and be sure I’m standing straight. For that you should hold your camera straight. Will you remember?

-Yes

-Will you remember mistake #1 -Do not cover the lens!

Very good. Now tell me Benny. Do you see me?

-Yes, I do

-Where are my hands now?

-One hand is in the pocket

-Where is my other hand?

-The other hand holds your hat

-Great Benny! Am I standing upright?

-You do

-Push the red button Benny. Push it!

-Hurray!. I did-screamed Benny.

-Let see the picture. Great job Benny! You are becoming a good photographer!

-I am a photographer. How to spell photographer? F-o-t-o

-It's difficult Benny, I'll show you at home, OK

-Susan, can you take a picture of me photographing you?

-Yes, we can take pictures of each other with our cameras.
One-two-three-go!

They walked along streets and took pictures of different things. It was a clear day with a blue sky with a lot of white clouds.

-Look Susan, that cloud looks like a dog.

Benny took a picture of it.

-Let me see how it looks. When Susan look at screen they both were disappointed-half of “dog” was cut out

-I’ll do it again-said Benny, but when he try to do it again he could not see it any more

-Where is a dog? Susan, where is my dog?-screamed Benny

-Benny, don’t be upset. Your dog is gone. It’s not easy to photograph clouds. You should be very quick. Clouds are always moving-explained Susan

-Where are they moving? Why don't they stay...,-Benny kept looking at the sky trying to find his dog. He looked upset

-Do not be upset. We can find a real dog somewhere around here, if you like dogs so much.

RULES for TAKING PEOPLE'S PHOTOS

Benny looked around and suddenly he whispered to Susan

-Look there, Susan, Mr Green is coming!

On the other side of the street she saw a man leaving his house. He was short with a big belly and had some gray hair on his head....and he wore jeans....exactly what Benny described

-Be quiet Benny-Susan said. She took her camera, set a zoom and took a picture of “Mr Gray” from far away. Benny also wanted to take picture of Mr Gray, but Susan stopped him

-Benny, how about some ice cream? I see a café next to Mr Green house.-What flavor do you like?

-My favorite is chocolate. How to spell chocolate?

-C-h-o-c-o...Come on Benny, let's eat it instead of spelling it. Look Mr Green is leaving with his car.

When they passed the house Benny got a camera and took a picture of Mr Green house. Susan did the same

-Mr Green has a great house, -she said. What about poor Robert? He probably has none.

Ice cream was delicious. Benny took picture of Susan eating ice cream and asked her to take his

-Benny,- said Susan-please listen to me carefully. You can take any pictures you like, but with people it's a different story. We need people permission to take their pictures

-Why?

-Because they can be upset. They would not like it. They can be angry at you. See, I took Mr Green's picture? I'll delete it now. Let me show on your camera how to delete pictures

-I don't want to delete my pictures. I don't have Mr Green. I'd not photograph people. I'll photograph clouds

-Ok, Benny, don't get upset. I'm sorry. Sure you did nothing wrong. But we can photograph people if we ask them first. Look here

Susan went up and approach sales girl

-Hi! Could we take a picture of you, please! It's my brother's favorite ice-cream place.

-Sure, why not

-Benny, come. Get your camera

Susan even took picture of Benny with salesgirl

Benny was happy and exited

When they left cafe and past Mr Green house Benny looked upset again

-What's happened, bro?

-We cannot make a story about Mr Green and others we wanted

Do not worry, brother, with you we can do everything. Let me write Mr Green's address.

-What is that? I don't know

-What is your address Benny?

-Address? I don't know

-Ok, don't worry, we'll find out now. See this number on Mr's Green house? Tell me, please

-It's 1-9-7

-Great! Now we need a name for the street. Look up there.
What did it say?

-S-t-o-n-e! Can I take a picture of it?

-Sure .Ok, Mr Green lives on Stone street, house #197.
Very good. Now let's go around and find homes for other
people. They are not rich, so their houses would not be so
big and good as Mr Green

-Robert and his girlfriend don't have money to pay for the
rent

-Then probably they live in some basement. Basements
are cheap

They found houses for all the heroes in Benny's movie.
And wrote down all the addresses. Benny diligently took
pictures of all the streets the places were located.

-Benny, do you know where the library is located?, -
Asked Susan

Library? How to spell library-lab

-I'll tell you later, Benny, don't worry, we'll write it
down. Could you show me where the library is?

-Need to go home-said Benny

Susan realized that Benny is very particular with ways to go. He knows the exact route and should follow it.

Every evening when her brother went to sleep she went to the internet and learned about autism. It was very interesting information there. People shared their experiences and Susan stayed far late reading

-Sure dear! Let's go home and grab something to eat. Ice cream was delicious, but I think I'd get something more serious.

TRIP to THE LIBRARY

After lunch they headed towards the library. As with the way to park Benny announced everything on the way.

-Go straight to the end of the block. Turn right. Cross the road. Look for the green light,..., -Susan just followed next to Benny. Soon they saw the library.

-Great Benny. It was not far. –Susan saw that Benny is opening his camera

-Benny, what is the address of that library?

Benny took picture of the library and the address library was located

-Benny, that is a great idea. We could make a “Guide around our town” with you. You could show it to all guests who come to you. Lets go inside

They settled down on one of empty table

-What are we going to do here? -asked Benny

- Talk low, please. In the library it should be quiet. Wait for me here. I’ll be back soon.

Susan returned with a lot of colorful magazines

-Benny-she whispered in his ear-let's look through the magazines and find people who look similar to Mr Green, Robert, Frank, Tanya

In half of an hour they had a few choices to choose from every character in their cameras.

-Lets quickly go home to make pictures- said Benny

When they left library Susan suggested

-You know Benny, I think I know the shorter way to get home. If you want to try, you need just follow me

Benny hesitated

“Just trust me, brother. I’m good at it” - Susan said

Benny hesitated a little more than looked at Susan and said

“OK. Let's go then”

They quickly got home . Benny rushed to computer

“Come Susan, come”

Mom came over

“What happened, Benny? Miss your guys?”

“No, pictures. A lot of them. We need to chose

They spent a long time on the computer. They laughed a lot, discussing every character and choosing the best one fitted.

It was a long day for Benny, but he didn't remember another day in his life so interesting and funny

“How nice to have a bigger sister. Not that baby Carol which cries all the time”, thought Benny falling asleep

But for Susan the whole fun only started

“Mom, please do not distract me. I have to do many things before I go to sleep.

“OK, Dear! Take all the time you need. If you need any help, just let me know

Mom felt so happy seeing Benny happy and busy. Although she still didn't know what is that they do the whole days long, but she felt that it was something nice

PHOTOCLUB for SPECIAL CHILDREN

Next day when Susan got up Benny was already up waiting for Susan to have breakfast with her. They quickly finished with breakfast. Benny brought his camera

-What is expected today? -he asked Susan

-Today is a surprise day,-Susan announced. She picked up a shopping bag.

-Lets go to your room. I started to write a story. I'd like you to listen to it now

THE STORY

“Benjamin Andrew Norman (Benny) lived with his family in a 2 store house on North street 27. He attended a special class for children with autism in a local public school and was a good student. He was a 7 yo boy . He had his own computer. He watched a lot of videos there.

One of his favorite videos was about a very rich man Mr Green, who did not like people. In his business he treated his employees very badly and cheated his customers . So Mr Green's place was full of arguing and fighting . Everybody had a gun and they threatened to kill each other. Benny always wanted somebody would eventually punish Mr Green for his attitude towards people, but it did not happen.

One day a box arrived by Benny's house and it was his name written on it. When Benny opened the box he found a note. The note said "From now on Benjamin Andrew Norris becomes a BaN-Boy. BaN means Brave and Nice, the Boy who helps people to start being nice to others. BaN Boy wears a special magic suit for that and affects people with his Magic Gaze.

Susan put in front of Benny 4 pictures. All the characters they chose yesterday stayed in front of the houses Benny and Susan chose for them. Everybody had a gun in their hands

Benny was looking and could not understand what happened. He was so surprised, even a little bit shocked and scared. He looked at Susan

DOING MAGIC

Susan started to laugh

-Benny, don't worry, your sister learned how to do magic. When you grow a little bit I'll teach you. It's a computer program. Can do many things. Just wait and see and help me. Now it is your turn to do the magic.

Susan gave Benny a bag where he found a suit.

That is a suit for BaN Boy. Put it on . We have work to do. Susan's hard work paid back. Suit fitted great and she saw that Benny was excited waiting for the next move.

-Now my BaN Boy, it's your turn to do magic

Stand over there and look at me for 45 sec. Susan read that people with autism have problems with eye contact. She noted that Benny also avoided looking into people's eyes. Benny did not like to do it, but he wanted to see the Magic. So eventually he did it.

-Now look at the picture of Mr Green for 45 sec.

And after 45 sec Susan turned the picture off and Benny saw that instead of a gun Mr Green...was holding a photo camera

-He is a photographer now, Susan,- Benny was excited,
-just like us

-Yes, you are right, Benny. Now he is a photographer .
Let's make more miracles. There are other people waiting for you. In a while they had all those people holding cameras instead of guns

-The whole photography business-said Benny

-Yes, you are right brother. Let me read more of the story

BaN Boy visited all those people in their places one after the other. Then he gathered them together and said :

Follow me, Please

They came to Mr. Green's house

Outside now it looked differently. It was painted in bright colors and had a name of it "PhotoClub for Special Children"

-That is what you'd be doing from now on,-said BaN Boy and I am sure you will enjoy your new occupation. I'll visit you soon. Then he disappeared

He did not see the pleasant happy smiles on their faces. As little kids they started to study their photo-cameras, which were different from each other and arguing which one was better

-Look everybody, I have a good zoom

- And mine has a wide screen

All photo cameras were very good , but each one had some special features in it."

-Benny, we need to make the name of the club , so I could take pictures for the story. Do you have markers or stickers?

- Mom keeps all that. I go to ask her

They worked hard and made a beautiful sign for the Club. Then mom came in and asked them to go to supermarket to buy bread

-Sure, grab your camera and go, - Said Susan

In the supermarket Susan made Benny to pose for all the steps which are needed for shopping-picking up items, put them in shopping card, pay money, get change and take your shopping along instead of leaving it behind

Susan prepared material for their next photobooks for important living skills everybody needs to know

Benny took a picture of the supermarket and its address.

-Susan , can we go to park? -asked Benny

-Sure. Miss the slides and swings?

Benny stopped

-First we have to go home, then to park

-No Benny. Do not worry. I'm going to ask people and I'll bring you right there. You know how good I am.

When Benny was a little bit afraid to try to go to slop hill Susan encouraged him.

-Go ahead, BaN Boy. We know what a brave boy you are.

After the park they went to an ice-cream store, said "Hi" to the sales girl and Benny gave her a picture he made of her. Picture was very good and the salesgirl was very

happy. She gave Benny the best/extra topping on his ice-cream

DISCUSSING the NEW STORY

-Benny, let's discuss what our people will do in a new PhotoClub.

-No rich boss Mr Green-said Benny

-Yes Benny, you are right. What if we do like that-Mr Green became such a different person, that he made A PhotoClub from his own house leaving for himself only one room. The rest he gave to children and photography.

-He became poor as Robert.

-No, he became an honest man working the same way as all honest people work. As our father for example. Robert would not be poor any more also as Mr Green would not steal his money. He'll teach children how to take pictures

-Tanya would help him,-said Benny,-many children will come

-O, yes, you are right, Tanya and Robert would do that. I think Tanya would help them to write stories

-As you help me?,- asked Benny

-Yes. Exactly. It's good when a child has an adult to help him

-Frank! We forgot Frank. What would he do?

-He would take care of equipment, help to print pictures-said Susan,-he would do the technical part.

-He can work with children now-said Benny-he is now a good man

-Wow, Benny, you are so smart!, -Susan still could not believe it.

Susan took notebook and a pen and they discuss all the photos they should do for their photostory

Susan really enjoyed her time with Benny and Benny was just happy-he never had such a great time

He waited for any new day because he knew that it'd bring him something interesting and exciting.....and all that his older sister did to him. He felt very lucky having such a sister. Mr and Mrs Norris were delighted just looking at their children

WORK on PHOTOBOKS

For the next few days Benny and Susan worked hard on that story. They took pictures of all necessary equipment .

They made many funny pictures about mistakes in using a camera and what to do in order to get good pictures.

Then they started to create rules for the Club

Susan read a lot about how much autistic kids like rules and she saw that Benny likes them as well. Together they wrote that

PhotoClub for Special kids invites everybody who likes photography and stories and agrees to follow the rules of the Club

Those rules they made in a green color

YES, sharing things with each other are welcome

YES, hugs are welcome

YES- helping each other is welcome

Those rules they made in a black color

We are NOT tearing Books or photographs

We are NOT breaking cameras or other equipment

We are NOT fighting with each other

We are NOT destroying each other things here

Next to each rule they put pictures of those actions

Helpful Information

If you want to learn how to take pictures, please ask our Photographer Frank (photo of Frank with a camera)

If you want your pictures printed talk to our Mechanic Robert (photo of Robert with a printer)

If you want to make a story from your photographs talk to our Writer Tanya (photo of Tanya with a pen and paper)

If you have questions or would like to talk about anything come to our Wise Man Mr. Green. He knows everything and loves everybody (photo of Mr Green)

Then Susan took a picture from the sign they did for the Club and said

-Lets go , I'll show you how I do my miracles

She opened her computer and started to work in the Photoshop program. In a while they had a picture of Mr

Green house with the sign of PhotoClub over the entrance door . House was painted now in pleasant colors and had cameras and kids with cameras on its walls. In front of the house there stand all 4 people with cameras in their hands. Benny was sitting and watching all that miracles Susan performed in front of his eyes and said

-Susan, you are a Magician! How do you do it?

-Do not worry brother. Grow a little bit older and I'll teach you that. Bring our PhotoBook and we'll put the last picture. When they attached that picture Benny said

-Lets write under it "Welcome to our Club!"

-Great idea, Benny !

Now we need to do the cover page and our PhotoBook will be finished. As Benny liked to use stencils with elaborated letters he was the one to write a title

Adventures of BaN Boy (part one)

"PhotoClub for Special Children"

Made by Benny and Susan Norman

-Susan, can we put our pictures here with cameras-asked Benny

-Great idea, Benny And I have another one, keep doing your work, I'll come back

She returned with mother who made a picture of Benny and Susan working on the PhotoBook

- Those 3 pictures we'll put on cover sheet —said Susan

SUSAN LEAVING HOME

It came a day for Susan to leave. Benny was very upset.

Susan also felt very sad, but tried not to show it to her brother. She asked:

-Benny, please bring your computer

Susan opened the computer and installed there Skype program

-Look Benny. This is your Skype name BaN Boy. That is how you and I will communicate with each other. Lets try now. Stay here and I'll go to my room.

After a while Susan appeared on the computer screen and they chatted a little bit.

FAMILY GETS TOGETHER

Later Mr Norman came home and they had a good meal together. After the meal they cleaned the table and Benny brought PhotoBooks to show parents. First they looked through the Book of PhotoClub and were very impressed.

-What a great idea , -said Mr Norman,-Benny you should take that book to school and show it to the teacher and your friends

-OK, dad, I will do it

Next they showed the book “A Guide Around Our Town” with pictures of a park, library, supermarket, ice-cream café with a nice salesgirl there hugging Benny. And of course the Norman family house was there as well. All places had their addresses and phone numbers

-What a great helpful things-exclaimed Mr and Mrs Norman together.-We could use it for friends and relatives when they visit us

-But that is only beginning-said Susan –Benny will continue it

-There is no my school here yet –said Benny-and a big shopping mall

-And Sport Center-said Mr Norman-and hospital

-And Art Gallery-said Mrs Norman...

Susan stopped them by showing another PhotoBook called “Skills we Need in Life” where were pictures of different steps of doing shopping in supermarket, making bed and preparing sandwich

What great helpful Books you made!-said mom and ask
-Benny, could you do a PhotoBook about your baby sister Carol and those new things she does every day

-You can do a PhotoBook about our whole Family-said father-it should be great!

Benny felt so good being in the Center of such a good attention and felt proud of himself

-I’ll work on it-he said seriously

It was a long and difficult day , Benny was tired and sleepy.

Susan took him to his room. Because she had to leave early in the morning she gave Benny a goodbye kiss and hug.

-Soon I’ll come home again and we’ll do part 2 of Adventures, my BaN Boy. Good night dear! I love you

-I love you too Susan. I'll wait for you....

SUSAN TALKS to PARENTS

Susan returned to parents

-Wow, Susan, what a miracle you did with Benny. He is a different person now. How did you do all of that? What is that you did?

-Nothing special. I just did not think about autism and focused just on my little brother-what he was about. I treated him as I'd treated any other person. Everybody has issues. Some of my friends in college are more difficult than Benny, by the way. Also I've read a lot of material about autism trying to understand his issues and how to deal with them better. You have a terrific guy here, my dear mom and dad. Soon you'll see it for yourself. Just continue working on PhotoBooks. He likes technical stuff as dad and I believe he is creative as our mom.

If you, dad, would teach Benny how to download and print pictures it would be great. I didn't have time for that. And mom could help him with writing and design as she is very good at it. Right mom. Remember you did great postcard yourself even in poems

-Yes dear. It's so good that you stayed with us. I cannot wait when you'll come again.

-And me too-said Mr Norman hugging Susan

-And I am thinking about my next coming home again as I already miss my little brother. Now I have to go to sleep as I need to get up very early. Good night!

A FINAL WORD

When Benny took his PhotoBook to school , everybody liked it so much, that their teacher decided to open a small PhotoClub in their school