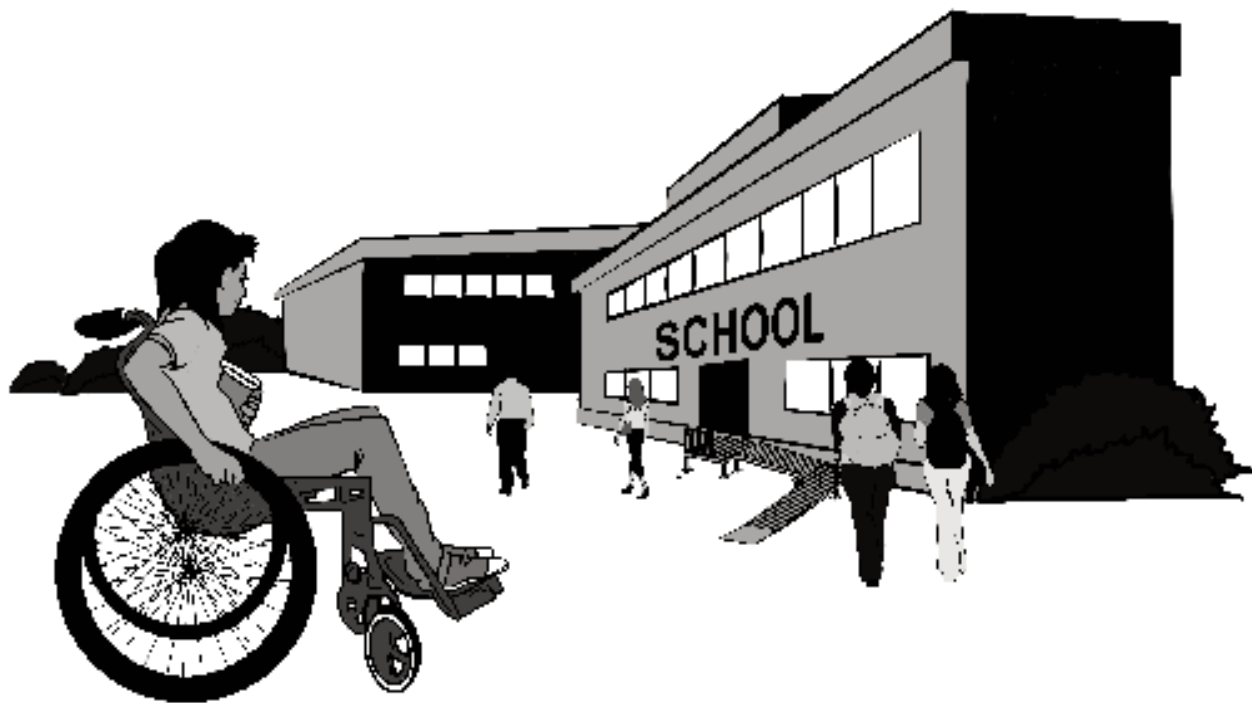


Carla's New School



During the summer, Carla's family moved to a new neighborhood. After Carla's family settled into their new home, Carla discovered that it was hard to meet other children who were her age. It seemed like many families in the neighborhood were away for the summer.

One day, Carla was taking her dog for a walk in the neighborhood when she saw a boy playing basketball outside of his house. Carla decided to introduce herself. "Hi, my name is Carla and my family just moved into the neighborhood." The boy stopped playing basketball and said, "Hi Carla. My name is Raymond. Welcome to the neighborhood!"

Carla smiled and continued on. She did not see Raymond again for the rest of the summer.

Because Carla's family had moved to a new neighborhood, Carla was going to start the 7th grade at a new school. Carla was very nervous. She was so worried that she could hardly sleep the night before the first day of school. Her parents told her that everything would be all right. They reminded her that sometimes things are scary, but that you may be surprised at how things turn out.

When Carla arrived at her new school, she stopped and stared at the outside of the building. She still felt nervous because she did not know any kids at her new school.

Carla went into her classroom that was full of unfamiliar faces. She found a spot and waited for class to start. Just as the bell rang, one last person dashed into the classroom. To Carla's surprise it was her neighbor Raymond! Raymond saw Carla and waved, and Carla waved back to Raymond. Her parents were right; new experiences can bring surprises.

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