

They're not nice!

"I don't want to play with Dylan anymore. He's nasty," said Kaylee. Yesterday a new family had arrived at the camping ground. Dylan had joined in building the dam with the other children at first, but when he couldn't do it all his way he got grumpy. "He swore at me," said Kaylee. Vicki replied, "He's just like that sea urchin we found the other day, prickly all over. I noticed none of the other kids want to play with him either."



"Well sea urchins have all those spines for their protection. Some are even poisonous. But I don't think Dylan's being like that to protect himself", Kaylee muttered. "Maybe he is. He seems pretty unhappy. Perhaps other kids have been mean to him and he thinks we will be mean to him too, so he's just getting in first. Let's ask him to play again tomorrow," said Vicki.



Listen to God! Matthew 9:9-13

Some people didn't want Jesus to have anything to do with Matthew when he became a disciple. He used to collect taxes and was probably grumpy and cross with people a lot of the time. Tax collectors weren't liked very much.

Talk to God!

Did you know that a sea urchin is an animal but it doesn't have a head. Their mouth is under their body and it's surrounded by teeth. The spines actually help it move, and also wedge itself into cracks in the rocks to protect it from heavy waves and attack from other animals.

Dear Jesus, sometimes it's really hard to be nice to people who aren't nice to us. Help us to treat others as you would treat them, and how we would like to be treated.

What did Jesus do? _____

What does he want us to do (verse 13)? _____

What does that mean? _____