

A Gift from Fadil – extra short story

Part 1:

“Do you think she will remember us?” Bashira sighed.

“Of course she will,” replied Fadil, “She’ll only be a few hours away.”

Fadil and Bashira’s cousin was moving. It would be the first time in their lives they’d be apart.

“Maybe we could give her something special to remember us by,” said Bashira.

“Good idea!” said Fadil, “Remember how much fun we had planting the vegetable garden together? Let’s dig up a tomato plant to give as a gift. That way she can plant it at her new house and think of us!”

“But how will the plant survive the trip?” Bashira wondered, “It needs sunlight, water, air, and nutrients.”

“We can engineer a plant package to solve this problem!” said Fadil.

Fadil and Bashira got to work searching for materials they could use to engineer a plant package.

“I think we can use this box for our plant package,” said Fadil.

“It’s a good place to start,” said Bashira, “but sunlight can’t get through and the plant may not get enough air. I think we can start with the box and make it better.”



Part 2:

Soon, Fadil and Bashira had chosen some materials to let sunlight and air in, and to keep the plant wet. But there was something else to consider.

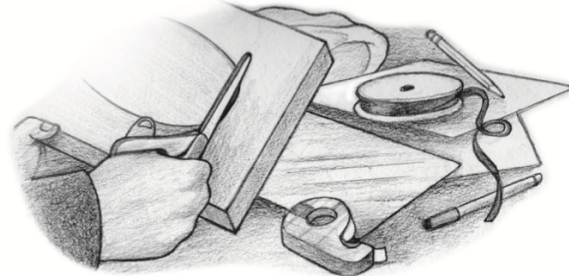
“The drive to our cousin’s new home is long, and it might be bumpy,” said Fadil, “The soil might spill out and the plant could get damaged.”

“Good point,” agreed Bashira. “We need something to help protect the plant during the trip. Maybe something that can keep the soil in.”

Bashira and Fadil looked at all the materials they had gathered and imagined some ideas. Then, they worked together to write a plan.

Bashira looked at their drawing. “Our plan shows that this part of the package will let in air. These pieces will keep the soil from falling out.”

“Great!” said Fadil, “Let’s create!”



Part 3:

Bashira and Fadil's plant package was ready to test. They gently placed the plant inside and closed the lid.

First, they looked closely to see if the plant could get sunlight. Then, they used a straw to blow on the package to see if the plant was getting air. Last, they tested the package by shaking it and dropping it. Would the plant be okay?

Bashira carefully opened the package. "Oh no! This plant is broken!" she cried, "Our special gift will never make it through the trip!"

"It's okay," said Fadil, "Engineers know that a first design doesn't always work. We can work together to improve it and try again!"

"Okay," sighed Bashira, "Maybe we can add something to support the stem."

The next day Fadil and Bashira gave their cousin the gift. She was so happy to have such a special memory to plant at her new home. "And just look at this package design," she exclaimed, "I'm sure this plant will survive the long trip. Thank you so much!"





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