



Ben's Only Choice

It was tryout day for the after-school band. Ben really wanted to be in the band. He had never played an instrument before, but he just knew he could do it, if he was given a chance. When the bell rang at the end of the day, Ben hurried out of class and toward the music room. He wanted to get their first so he could choose his instrument. But his math teacher stopped him in the hall to talk to him about a missing assignment. Ben listened impatiently. He had to get to the music room! Finally, the teacher let him go. But by the time Ben go to the music room, there was only one instrument left on the table to be chosen. It wasn't a horn, or saxophone, or even a drum, which were all instruments that Ben hoped to learn to play. It was a xylophone.

"Isn't there anything else?" Ben asked the music teacher.

"That's all that's left," the teacher told him. "If you want to be in the band, you will have to play the xylophone."

Ben picked up a mallet and struck one of the keys. It made a beautiful sound. Suddenly, the xylophone seemed interesting.

"I'll take it!" Ben says. This was going to be fun!

_____ The xylophone was the only instrument left.

_____ Ben's math teacher stopped him in the hall.

_____ The bell rang.

_____ Ben asked his teacher if there was another instrument.

_____ Ben was the last one to get to the music room.

_____ Ben decided it would be fun to play the xylophone.

_____ Ben picked up a mallet and struck one of the keys.