Stickers Everywhere!

By Julie Cornelius-Huang
(Based on a true story)

Carey saw a bag sitting on the counter. She looked inside. She saw a whole package of stickers! Spacemen. Astronauts. Rockets. Stars.

Carey loved stickers! She opened the package and peeled all the stickers off the paper. She put one sticker on the countertop.

She put one on the wall. And one by the light switch. Soon stickers were everywhere.

Then Carey went outside to play.

A few minutes later, Carey heard Mom calling her. "Come here," Mom said. She didn't sound very happy.

Carey came inside.

Mom pointed at the stickers. "Do you know who did this?" Mom asked.

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Carey was a little worried. Would she get in trouble if Mom knew she used the stickers?

Carey took a deep breath. "I did," she said.

"Those were for your brother's birthday party," Mom said. "Now we don't have any stickers."

Carey felt like crying. She hadn't meant to do something wrong. She hoped Mom wasn't too mad at her.

"I'm sorry," Carey said.

"Next time, be sure to ask," Mom said. "And don't stick stickers around the house."

Carey nodded.

"And there's one more thing," Mom said. "It's very important."

Carey looked up at her.

"Thank you for telling me the truth," Mom said. "I'm proud of you." She gave Carey a hug. "I hope you'll always tell me the truth."

Carey didn't feel good about using up all the stickers. But she did feel good about telling the truth.

"Thanks, Mom," Carey said. "I will." ●

The author lives in Nevada, USA.