



"Where are you going, Dad?" I ask excitedly. I wonder if something interesting is happening.

"I'm going to search for some deer. Would you like to come along? We'll take a trek in the woods," replies Dad.

"I love going for walks. Wait for me!" I reply.

"I want to go too!" yells Mike, my younger brother. "Please help me tie my shoes!"

"Don't worry, Mike. I will help you. Dad always waits for both of us," I explain calmly.

We live in the country with huge trees behind our house. During the different seasons of the year, my brother and I like to walk along the paths that go through the trees. Dad usually goes with us and teaches us things about nature.

It's a fall afternoon and our shuffling feet make quite a racket through the dry leaves. Dad tells us to try to be quiet. He doesn't want us to scare the deer away.

"Shhhh!" says Dad. "Stop and listen!"

My little brother and I stop, but we don't hear anything.

"I hear something!" whispers Mike. "Over there!" he points.

I look to where he's pointing and see a big, brown deer looking right at us! She isn't moving, but her head is up high. She's listening just like we are! The deer puts her head down, grunts, and stomps her front hoofs on the ground. We wait while Dad smiles and lifts his camera to his face. Click! ... whirr ... Click! Dad takes two pictures.

Two smaller deer stand behind the doe! They are her baby fawns, born last spring. They are eating acorns off the ground. The fawns don't even see us! The doe snorts again and turns to jump away. The two little deer follow her.

"That was really cool, Dad. Thanks for taking us with you," we say.