



# Cleaning Up

## Part 1

**Teacher Reads** Carl wants to go to the park, but his mom tells him that he must clean his room first. Carl has a lot of stuff in his room, so it's not an easy task!

“No, Carl, you may not go until you clean your room.

11 Look at it! It is unfit for a person! I have been telling you for  
26 three days to clean it. If you start soon, you may get to the  
40 park by this afternoon.” Then his mom left the room.

50 “This puts me in a bad mood!” Carl said to his dog,  
62 Blaze. “I want all of this stuff. But there is just too much to  
76 fit in this room. Do you see that hoop? I need to keep that  
90 hoop because Coach Green gave it to me. It means a lot to  
103 me. I like that big stool, too. I got it cheap at a yard sale last  
119 week. I may need to use it someday.” Carl sat on the bed.

132 “I have to think about this,” he said to Blaze as he rubbed  
145 the dog's neck.



## Part 2

**Teacher Reads** As Carl started to clean his room, he found new places to store things.

148        After a while, Carl started picking things up. He made  
158 his bed and then he slid the hoop from Coach Green under  
170 the bed. “It fits, Blaze,” he said. “I wish this stool was flat.  
183 If it was, I could slide it under the bed, too.” Carl stopped  
196 and said, “My room is cleaner, but I am still not through.”  
208        Carl dusted the shelf by the window and then swept with  
219 a broom. There was a lot of dust. Soon the room started to  
232 look clean. “Well, Blaze,” Carl said, “what should I do with  
243 that stool? It did not cost a lot, but it may have to go.” Blaze  
258 just gave Carl a sad look.  
264        “Wait!” Carl yelled. “I have it!”

## Part 3

**Teacher Reads** Read on to discover how Carl solved the problem with the stool in an interesting way.

270        Carl left his room and went down to the yard. When he  
282 came back, he had three pots with plants in them. He put the  
295 stool in the corner by his window. He put a plant on top of  
309 the stool and the rest on the steps of the stool.  
320        At noon, Carl yelled, “Mom, come and see my clean  
330 room.” Mom came in and gave Carl a smile when she saw  
342 that the room was neat and clean. Then she saw the stool in  
355 the corner.  
357        “It’s more than a stool, Mom. It also makes a useful plant  
369 stand,” Carl said. “Those plants need light to grow. I dug up  
381 the rose plant with the root. Then I put it in the pot. Look!  
395 A rose is about to bloom. Now may I go to the park?”  
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