

Name _____

Word Count: 177

A Night in the Trees

Hector lagged behind the others on the hike. He felt a little worried and nervous about camping overnight with the youth group from the community center. Sleeping outside sounded uncomfortable. Still, his friend Alexander had insisted the trip would be fun, so here he was.

Alexander ran back down the path to find him. “Wait until you see where we’re sleeping!” Alexander said.

Hector was astonished when he saw the tree house. It was a remarkable wooden structure, built between two trees. The main, horizontal platform appeared to be elevated twelve feet above the ground. It had a roof overhead and railings along the sides for safety. Hector thought it looked like a giant popsicle.

On the ground, the group grilled hamburgers and vegetables over a campfire. As darkness fell, Hector climbed the ladder to the tree house. He fell asleep listening to a chorus of crickets. In the morning, a bird sang on a sunlit branch just a few feet from his nose. Hector thought he now felt like that bird, happy enough to start singing.