

Leaf It to Us

Madison and Frank had a problem. Soon it would be their grandparents' fiftieth wedding anniversary. Their family was throwing a huge family dinner to celebrate it. Everyone would be there. Their cousins from New York, New Mexico, and Arkansas were coming. Everyone would have a special gift—everyone except Madison and Frank. They had no gift, because they had very little money.

"Maybe we could ask Mom and Dad for a loan," said Madison.

"They are already spending a lot of money on the dinner," said Frank. "They can't afford it. Maybe we could make them a gift instead."

"Maybe," said Madison. "Or maybe we can find something nice on sale."

That afternoon, Madison and Frank walked downtown. They wanted to look around for the perfect gift idea for the anniversary. First, they went to the craft store. They saw a kit for making a picture frame.

"That looks like a good idea," said Frank. "They will have lots of pictures from the anniversary dinner."

"I want to look a little more before we decide," said Madison.

Frank and Madison walked to the next store. Inside they saw pretty vases and beautiful coffee mugs.

"They have a flower garden. A vase is a good idea. They also like to drink coffee," said Madison.

"I think they would like the picture frame best because they like gifts we make," Frank announced after they were finished looking.

When they went back to the store with the frame kit, they looked at the price. They did not have enough money. Frank and Madison knew they would have to figure out how to earn enough to pay for the kit.

As they walked home, they shuffled their feet through the leaves. Seeing all the leaves on the ground gave them an idea. They could start a business raking leaves!

That afternoon Frank and Madison made flyers. They called their business "Leaf It to Us." They put some of the flyers at the store so people would see them when they paid for their things.

Soon people began to call Madison and Frank to rake the leaves in their yards. The two yard rakers worked very hard, and people started telling their friends about "Leaf It to Us."

Every time Madison and Frank had a leaf raking job, they saved part of the money so that they could buy the frame kit.

Finally, Frank and Madison had enough money saved, and they bought the kit. They were so excited! The frame would be a perfect gift for the anniversary celebration!

They assembled and decorated the frame. Then, they wrapped it so that Grandmother and Grandfather could not tell what it was.

Soon, the big day came. Madison and Frank waited for their grandparents to get to their gift. They were so happy to get the frame.

"We will need a frame because we'll have so many great pictures from this dinner," said Grandfather.

"I like it, too, because you made it," said Grandmother.

As Madison and Frank walked over to the cake table, they were talking about what a hit the present was.

"Leaf it to us!" they both said at the same time.

