A Garden for Everyone (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

The empty land behind our school was ugly for many years. Old wood and plastic lay everywhere, and a broken fence separated it from the road. Last spring our teacher asked us a simple question: should we clean it or leave it? We had to vote , and almost every student raised a hand for cleaning.

On the first Saturday, eleven of us came with gloves and bags. Mr Ferreira, who grew up in the village, joined us too. This is his native region, so he knows which plants grow well here. He explained that some flowers appear naturally in this soil, without any help from people. Our job was mostly to remove the rubbish. We also carried a heavy net from the old sports field and threw it away. By lunchtime the ground looked much better, and the sun was pleasantly warm on our backs.

A clean garden is not necessarily a beautiful one, so we made a plan. We drew straight lines for the paths and wrote a list of what we would need : seeds, soil, water pipes and two benches. The shop in town gave us a discount because we were students. My friend Lena wanted roses and I wanted apple trees. In the end we planted neither of them, because both were too expensive that year. Instead we chose herbs and simple summer flowers.

By June the garden was green and neat , with short grass and clear paths. The best feature was the long wooden bench under the wall, where people sit and read. An old woman from the next street now comes every morning as a volunteer and waters the plants before breakfast. She says the work keeps her strong. Our teacher took a photo of the garden and sent it to the local newspaper, and last month a short article about us appeared on page five.

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