**The Shop with the Green and Yellow Door**

If you press your nose against the window of the shop with the green and

yellow door, you will see a wonderful display. Look hard at the long shelves. See the boxes and trays filled with all kinds of fruit and vegetables. There are yellow and green pears, bright red tomatoes, green cabbages, red cabbages, white cabbages, curly cabbages ...... and oranges – of course you know what colour they are.

The shop is shut today, so we can only peer through the window. If you were inside you could hear the gentle humming of the refrigerators. Let’s imagine we are in the shop. The lights are dim and long shadows stretch across the sleeping flowers and fruits. It is Sunday and very quiet in the shop. So quiet that if you were a carrot or a green bean you could hear a potato snoring. Now look up at the shelf above the table where customers pay for the fruits and vegetables they buy. See the big box lined with soft pink paper. It is facing the door so everyone can see it when they come into the shop. In the box is a huge parsnip and all around him are four brussels sprouts, a long green bean, a carrot with its green hairy top, a very large potato, two pears which look exactly alike, an apple, a bright red strawberry and a banana.

“It’s going to be a long weekend”, moaned the potato in the pink box. He is always complaining. His name is Tatti.

“I hope it’s not going to be too hot,” worried Ms. Ruby, the strawberry. I’ll go soft if it is.” She rocked from side to side to stop herself sticking to the pink paper.

“Me too”, squeaked Lady Anna, the banana.

“And we’ll go brown at the edges”, squealed the four sprouts, Jenny, Becky, George and Bruce, all talking together.“It’s no use getting worried and upset”, Pa Snip shouted over all their chattering. Then, in a quieter voice, he said, “We can’t do anything about it, but I know how we can pass the time. I’ll tell you some stories about yourselves or your families.”

“That sounds a wonderful idea”, said Carrie carrot, opening her eyes so wide it made her green top quiver.

“Who will be first?” asked Slim, the long green bean.

“Start with us,” called Peter and Paula, the twin pears.

“No ! Us ! Us ! Us ! Us !” shrieked the sprouts one after the other.

“Stop it!” called Mr. H. Appy the apple. “Your chattering gets on my nerves!”

“Well”, said Pa Snip, “I think we’ll start with the sprouts - just to keep them quiet. Let me think now …. a story about four brussel sprouts ..... called Jenny, Becky, George and Bruce” …………..