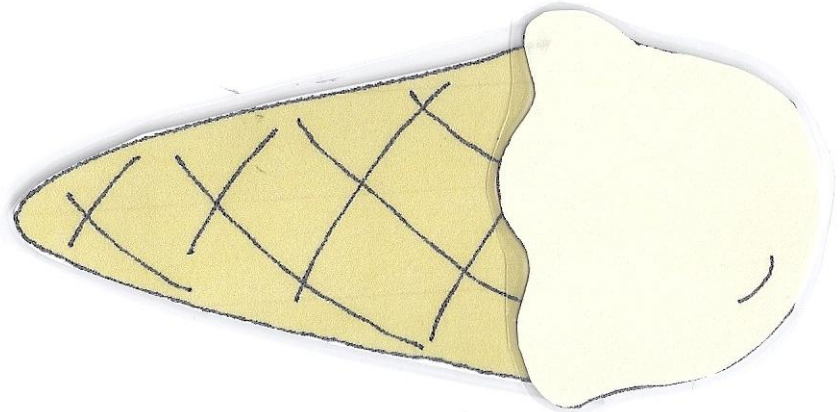
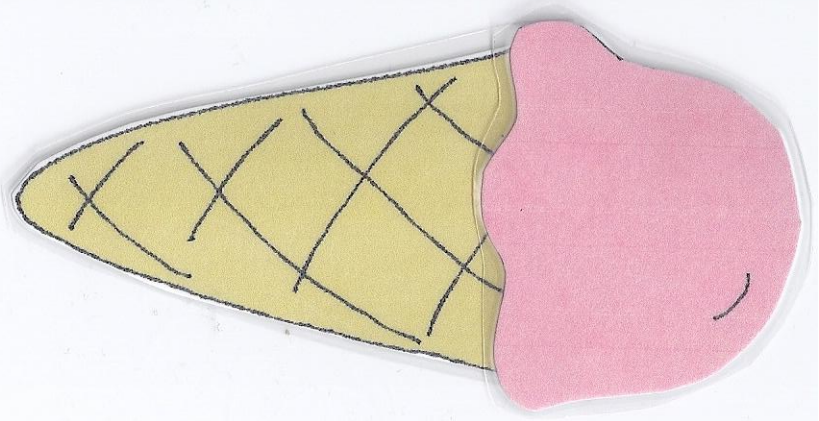
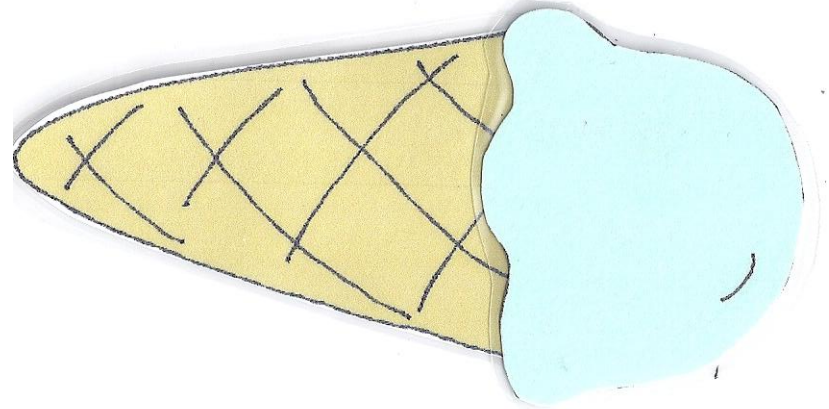
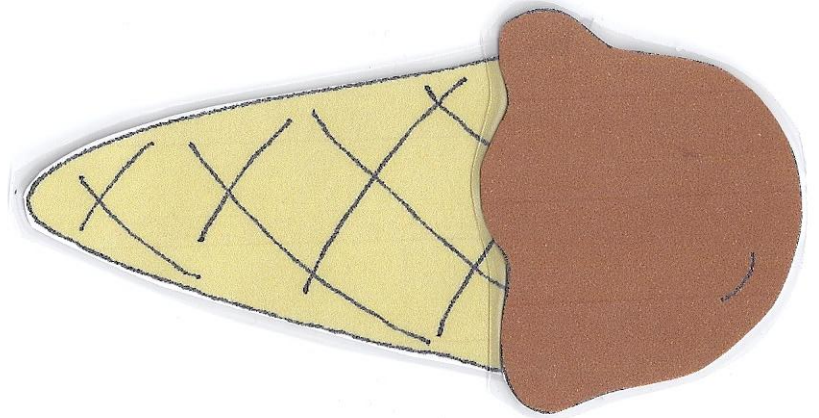


Too Shy
Alex
story by
Lynda Blau
Remember
to Say
Thank you
lesson 25



Too Shy Alex... Ice Cream Every Day

by Lynda Blau

Mr. Ellis owns a local ice cream shop. It was summer time and he wanted to do something special for the children because they were out of school for summer break. He decided to advertise an ice cream cone that would only cost 25 cents. The mother's in the neighborhood thought it was great, while the father's thought he would go lose money by giving away an ice cream cone for only a 25 cents.

The first day of the 25 cent ice cream cone sale Mr. Ellis had a lot of customers. All day long the children would come in and get their ice cream cones for 25 cents. They would leave and tell their friends.

The second day was even busier than the first day, and the third and the fourth.

Alex was one of Mr. Ellis' customers. Alex's mom gave him a dollar a week for ice cream. Alex was shy and had a hard time looking at Mr. Ellis when he ordered the ice cream. So when it came time to pay Alex would take the ice cream cone, look down, and walk away.

On Monday, he ordered vanilla, but he was too shy to say anything to Mr. Ellis.

On Tuesday, he ordered chocolate, but he was too shy to say anything to Mr. Ellis.

On Wednesday, he ordered strawberry, but he was too shy to say anything to Mr. Ellis.

On Thursday, he ordered mint chocolate chip, but he was too shy to say anything to Mr. Ellis.

By Friday he didn't have any money left so he just went to the shop and look around and then left.

This went on for the month of June. By July Mr. Ellis knew Alex's routine, so he was prepared when Alex came in. But still Alex wouldn't say anything to Mr. Ellis except to tell him what flavor he would like. Mr. Ellis's shop was doing very well, and the children kept coming in for ice cream. In August the crowd had slowed down, but Alex was there every day.

About a week before school was to start Alex went into the shop for an ice cream cone, and Mr. Ellis had his vanilla cone ready for him. Alex put his quarter on the counter. But Mr. Ellis did something strange. He gave the ice cream cone a great big lick. Alex was surprised, and then started to laugh, and laugh. Then Mr. Ellis ate the whole ice cream cone up. Then Alex gave a big smile while Mr. Ellis scooped up another ice cream cone for him.

"Thank you," Alex said as he took the cone.

"You're very welcome," Mr. Ellis replied, "And thank you for letting me eat your ice cream cone."

Mr. Ellis and Alex started a new friendship. The next summer Alex was in the shop helping Mr. Ellis with the ice cream cone sale.

