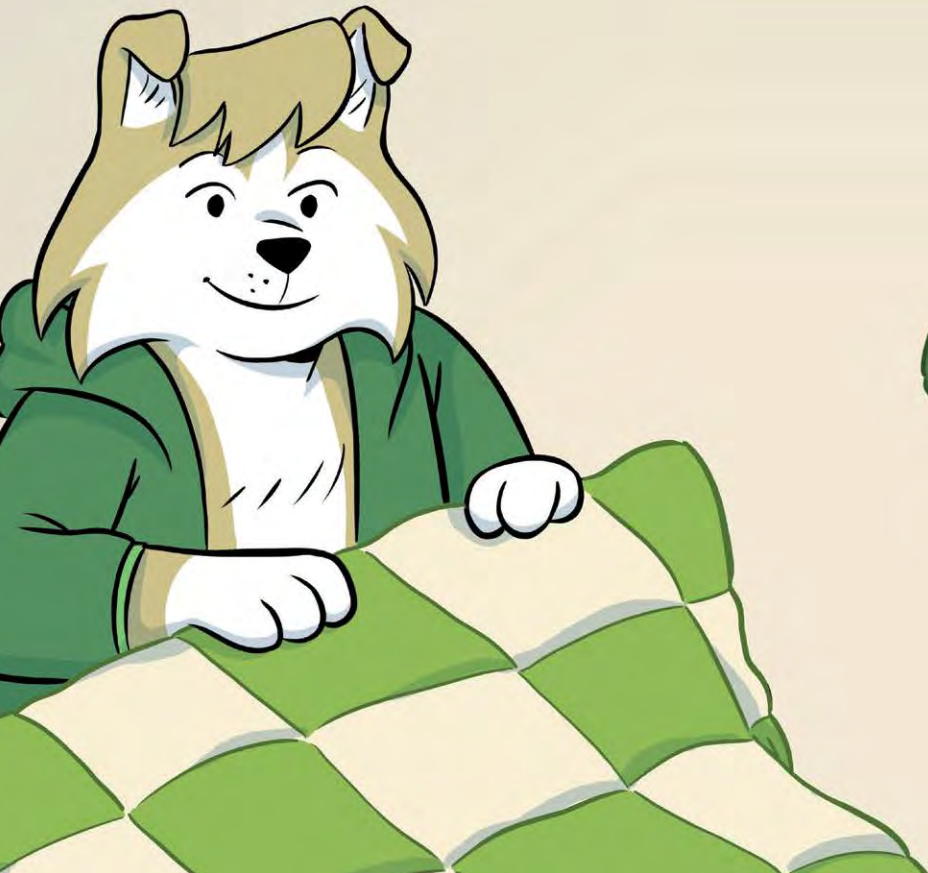




TUNDRA FRIENDS



Asking for Help



Published by Arvaaq Press Inc.

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Printed in Canada.

ISBN: 978-1-77450-799-5



Asking for Help



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Taqu wakes up early in the morning. She can't believe her first camping trip is over already! She has had so much fun.

She stretches and goes outside. Her *anaana** has breakfast ready.

**anaana* (ah-NAH-nah): mother





Taqu digs into her breakfast.

“Good morning, Taqu,” says Anaana. “So, did you have fun camping?”

“Yes!” says Taqu.

“Now that you’re older, we can make more trips out here,” says Anaana.

Taqu smiles with a mouthful of food.



Taqu finishes her breakfast.

“We need to start packing up,” says Anaana. “Taqu, can you pack up the bedding and bring it outside? Then *Ataata** can put it on the *qamutiik***.”

Taqu raises her eyebrows and goes into the tent.

**ataata* (ah-TAH-tah): father

***qamutiik* (KAH-moo-teek): sled





Taqu has never packed up bedding on a camping trip before. But her friends go camping all the time. If they can do it, she's sure she can figure it out.

Taqu looks at the pile of sleeping bags, blankets, and mattresses in the tent. *Is this all bedding? Or are only the sleeping bags bedding?* Taqu thinks, confused. She flops onto one of the beds while she figures it out.





Taqu's anaana pokes her head into the tent.

"How's it going in here?" asks Anaana.

Taqu bolts upright. "Oh, it's good. I'm just getting organized," she says. She doesn't want Anaana to know that she hasn't started yet.



Taqu looks at the bedding again. She is still confused. *Where does it all go? Which bags do the sleeping bags go in?* Taqu thinks, looking through all the stuff.





Taqu feels embarrassed about not knowing how to pack the bedding. Her friends do this all the time. They never said it was hard.

Taqu keeps looking for sacks for the sleeping bags. She looks through all the stuff.

“My book!” says Taqu. She had been looking for this book last night.

She looks at the big pile of bedding again and then back at her book.

Hmm, I only have a few pages left. Maybe I can finish it quickly, she thinks.





Taqu runs out of the tent, her book in hand. She runs right into Anaana!

“Not so fast,” says Anaana. “I asked you to pack up the bedding. Is it done?”



“Well, ummm...,” says Taqu.

“Taqu, is everything okay?” asks Anaana.

“Well...I was going to pack up the bedding, but I didn’t know how,” Taqu says.





“Why didn’t you ask me for help?” says Anaana.

“I...I don’t know,” says Taqu. “All my friends go camping a lot. They know how to do this stuff. I thought I should know too,” says Taqu.

“Oh, Taqu. It’s always okay to ask for help. And it’s your first time camping. I bet your friends needed help on their first camping trip too,” says Anaana.





“Hmm...I guess you’re right,” says Taqu. “Anaana, will you show me how to pack up the bedding?”

“Of course!” says Anaana.

They both go into the tent and start packing up.

Anaana shows Taqu how to roll up the sleeping bags and put them into their sacks. Then they roll up the mattresses. Anaana shows Taqu how to tie up the mattresses. Soon everything is ready to go!





“Thanks for helping me, Anaana. Now I’ll know what to do for our next camping trip,” says Taqu, smiling.

“You’re welcome,” says Anaana. “Remember, you can always ask for help if you don’t know how to do something. Now let’s go see if Ataata needs help packing the qamutiik!”





TUNDRA FRIENDS



“It’s always okay to ask for help.”

Taqu has had a lot of fun camping, but now it is time to go home. When her *anaana* asks her to pack up the bedding, Taqu feels embarrassed. She doesn’t know where to start. Her friends do this all the time, so why can’t she figure it out? When Anaana realizes she hasn’t started packing, Taqu learns that it is okay to ask for help when she needs it.



ISBN 978-1-77450-799-5



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