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# Ooloo Takes a Bath

by Guy Belleranti

Like all space alien kids, Ooloo hated taking his monthly bath.

“Mom, water’s icky wet. May I take a bath in Martian mud instead?”

“No, Ooloo, you may not. Now please get in the tub. And don’t forget to scrub both antennae.” Mom left the room.



Ooloo glared at the bathwater. Maybe if he added more bubbles it wouldn’t feel so icky wet.

GRRRR! Nothing happened.

Maybe the water needed mixing.

Ooloo stuck an arm into the water and spun his seven fingers like a mixer. Three bubbles, six bubbles, nine bubbles. Not enough bubbles.

Ooloo stuck his second arm into the bathtub and gave the water a double seven finger mix. Still not enough bubbles.

Ooloo took a deep breath, closed his three eyes and jumped in.

SPLASH!

Icky wet, icky wet. Better mix fast. Ooloo mixed with his fourteen fingers. He mixed

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with his fourteen toes. He mixed with his two antennae and his entire body.

SPLASH, SPLASH, SPLASH!

Suddenly, bubbles were in the water, in the air, and floating everywhere.

Small bubbles.

Medium bubbles.

Large bubbles.

And one giant space alien kid-sized bubble. In this bubble was Ooloo!

Ooloo floated out of the room and up to the next level of their cave house.

"MAAAAHM!" he called. "MAAAAHM!"

Ah, there she was. Mom looked up and screamed, "OOLOO!" just as their only door to the outer world opened.

Dad came in, and Ooloo floated out.

"OOLOOOOOOOO!" cried Mom.

"Boy in bubble, boy in trouble!" cried Dad.

Heads popped out of cave doors, cave windows and other holes in the ground. Everyone saw Ooloo floating by in his bubble. "Boy in bubble, boy in trouble!" they shouted.

Across the flowering field under the three setting suns sailed Ooloo. Across the flowering field under the three setting suns chased Mom, Dad, neighbors and friends.

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“Watch out for the mean hungry tree!” shouted one of Ooloo’s friends.

“Yes,” cried another. “It’s just ahead, sticking out pointy branches.”

Ooloo gently pushed on the bubble to steer it away from the tree. Then, looking down at the field of fragrant flowers, Ooloo poked his fourteen fingers, fourteen toes and two antennae into the sides of the bubble.

POP!

Everyone covered their eyes as Ooloo dropped from the sky.

Everyone, that is, except Ooloo. “HEE, HEE, HA, HA,” Ooloo laughed. As he fell thousands of soft friendly fragrant flowers cushioned him like a feather mattress. He continued to laugh as the flowers tickled his fingers, nose, antennae and toes.

Ooloo hugged his parents and slapped high fives with friends and neighbors.

“That was fun!” Ooloo said. “I can’t wait to take another bath and have another bubble ride to the flowers!”

“I wanna take a bath. I wanna ride in a bubble to the flowers,” cried all of Ooloo’s friends.

The parents gasped. All of their children wanted to take wet, bubbly baths! And ever since that day, every space alien kid lived happily and cleanly ever after.

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1) What is the moral of the story?

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2) "Boy in bubble, boy in trouble!" Who was the boy in trouble? Why was he in trouble?

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3) Recount Ooloo's bath in your own words.

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4) Why did all the children want to take wet bubbly baths?

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5) Why is it important for children to be clean at all times?

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