

Lady and the Garden Hose

The Delgado family had a new puppy named Lady. She was a playful puppy. She especially liked playing with the garden hose. She loved to watch the hose wiggle like a snake when she chewed on it. One day Mr. Delgado saw Lady drag the garden hose across the yard. “Not again!” he said as he hung the hose on the hook that was on the side of the house.

It was the fifth time this week that Lady had taken the hose down from its hook. Mr. Delgado had tried to teach her not to do it. He pointed to the hose each time and said with a stern voice, “No, Lady! Don’t play with the hose!” It hadn’t helped.

The next day Mr. Delgado went outside to water his vegetable garden. Once again he found the hose stretched across the yard. Lady playfully picked it up in her teeth when she saw him.

Manuel came outside. “Hi, Dad,” he said. “May I help water the garden?” Manuel picked up the hose, and Mr. Delgado turned on the water. Only a few drops of water fell on the plants. They saw water springing up from tiny holes all along the hose.

Manuel looked at Lady. “Your sharp teeth made those holes, Lady. You turned our hose into a fountain,” he said. Lady wagged her tail proudly. Manuel and his father took the hose to the garage. They used rubber glue to mend it. “I don’t know how to teach Lady to leave the hose alone,” said Mr. Delgado once they had repaired the hose. “Do you have any ideas?”

“I know what we can do,” said Manuel. He wrapped the hose around the hook again. Then he brought two chairs from the yard. He turned them on their sides and leaned them against the house. The chairs formed a cage around the hose.

Lady walked over to the hose. She stuck her paw between the chairs. She poked the chairs with her nose and cried. She tried and tried, but she couldn’t reach the hose. Manuel’s idea was working. “You’re probably unhappy about this,” Manuel said to his puppy, “but Dad and I don’t want to fix that hose every day!”

1. What does Manuel use to cover the hose?

- A. A hook.
- B. Two chairs.
- C. The side of the house.
- D. An old blanket.

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