

A BUCKET FULL OF EXPECTATIONS

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This sensation disappeared the moment the bucket stubbornly refused to go any deeper. Although he hung onto the bucket with all his weight, he did not go any deeper. As the window was not underwater, he could not see anything.

“Dive!” Fred shouted to him, “Dive!”

But no matter how hard he tried, the bucket would not go under. In his frustration, he made the bucket tilt and then the air in the bucket escaped and water poured in. The space in the bucket was immediately filled and under Skubba’s weight it sank to the bottom. A few seconds later Skubba resurfaced.

“I cannot see anything! That bucket is not working,” he complained to Fred. “I cannot get it underwater even by hanging onto it. With the lunch box, I at least saw **SOMETHING!**”

“You are not heavy enough. You have to be much heavier to get the bucket underwater. Remember how much force you had to use to push your glass down in the sink? Well, for this big bucket we need more weight.”

Before Skubba could react, Fred had disappeared out of sight.

He did not know Fred had gone to look for anything that was heavy that he could carry: a big stone, a metal pipe, even a part of a train track. He loaded everything up into a wheelbarrow along with a cutting tool and rope and returned to the waterside.

Skubba was still trying to immerse the bucket. Only when he sat on it, was he successful. But, of course, that way he couldn’t see anything.

“Give me the bucket!” Fred called out to him.

He made three holes in the bottom of it. In fact the top, as he was holding the bucket upside down. He put the rope through the holes and at the end of the ropes he fixed the extra weight. Once he was finished, he dragged everything to the side and threw it into the water.

“OK!”

“OK?” Skubba replied while he looked on at the bobbing bucket.