

AESOP'S FABLE: The Boy and the Filberts

A Play Written by Connie Frank



Narrator on the Uses of Filberts: Most people ask what Filberts are, and although there is a candy that is named Filberts, the real Filberts are nuts. Filberts have a high oil content and are used to make excellent artisanal oils that can be drizzled over edibles to add a sweet, nutty, intense flavor. Filberts can be found in baked sweets, like cakes and candy. Filberts are round and solid, and their taste is hard and crunchy, with a hint of smokiness. Filberts are grown either in the Mediterranean region of Europe or in the Pacific Northwest.

Characters:	
	Narrator:
	David:
	Sally:
	Patrick's Mother:
	Patrick:
Script:	
Narrator:	Outside the school playground, kids were running everywhere. They were having fun. They would be on Summer Break and the kids were celebrating their last day of being together until school started again in the Fall. The swings were all taken, so Patrick ran to the slide, beating the other kids there. The joy they expressed put smiles on their teachers' faces. The teachers were also looking forward to the Summer as many had planned their vacations in southern Florida.
Patrick:	Hey guys! I'll race you to the Ice Cream cart!
David:	Last one there is an old man!
Sally:	Bet I beat you there!
Narrator:	The kids raced to the Ice Cream cart in the parking lot next to the playground. Snatching the popsicles, they ran and played until the teacher called them to go back inside. Parents were coming to pick them up. The day wove down, children piled into their parents' cars and headed home. Patrick hugged his friends, David and Sally, then waved to them as he drove away with his mother.
Patrick's Mother:	How was your day?
Patrick:	It was fun! But I'm sad. Can I call my friends and ask them to come over this summer?
Patrick's Mother:	You sure can. We're home now. Help me bring everything into the house, okay?
Patrick:	Okay. No Problem!
Narrator:	Patrick carried as many of the groceries as he could into the house, then started putting everything away. He was a very helpful boy, very kind. He really liked to help his parents, with his little sister Amelia. As he was putting everything away, though he found something new. A large package of nuts lay in his hands. Patrick loved to eat Pistachios. Were these nuts some kind of pistachio nuts?
Patrick:	Hey, Mom! What kind of nuts are these?
Patrick's Mother:	Those are something new. They are called Filberts. I am going to make some homemade candy, and the recipe calls for Filberts.
Narrator:	Patrick's Mother opened the package and poured the nuts into a small pitcher.
Patrick:	Mom, can I have some?
Patrick's Mother:	Some what?
Patrick:	I want some Filberts.
Patrick's Mother:	I hear they are pretty hard nuts until they are softened. Are you sure?
Patrick:	Go ahead. Try one.

Narrator:	After Patrick was given permission to put his hand into the pitcher to get some filberts, he grinned. Patrick's lips smacked. He was also hungry after school, but to get to try Filberts was the best. Patrick reached into the pitcher and grabbed a big handful of Filberts. But he had taken such a great fistful of Filberts that he could not draw his hand out again.
Patrick:	Come on! Come on!
Narrator:	His hand hurt. There Patrick stood, unwilling to give up a single Filbert and yet unable to get them all out at once. Vexed and disappointed he began to cry.
Patrick:	Mom! I can't get my hand out!
Patrick's Mother:	Patrick, let go! What are you doing here?
Patrick:	I can't get my hand out of the pitcher! It hurts!
Patrick's Mother:	My boy, be satisfied with half the nuts you have taken. You do not need to take out so many at the same! If you let some of the go back into the pitcher, you can easily get your hand out. Then perhaps you may have some more filberts some other time."
Narrator:	Being very hungry, Patrick got a little greedy, wanting to take a lot of the Filberts out of the pitcher all at the same time. It is something that we have all gone through, being a little greedy when we are hungry or when we feel that we may not get a chance to get more if we like those Filberts.
The moral of the story:	
<i>"Do not attempt too much at once."</i>	