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### Whiskers the Cat and the Size of the Problem

Whiskers is a cat who lives in a busy city. Every day, Whiskers meets different kinds of problems.

Some problems are **small**, some are **medium**, and some are **big**.

Whiskers is still learning to match the **size of the reaction** to the **size of the problem**.

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One morning, Whiskers is walking down the sidewalk.

A loud truck drives by and splashes a little water near his paws.

This is a **small problem**.

Whiskers feels surprised.

Whiskers takes a breath, shakes his paws, and keeps walking.

His reaction **matches** the size of the problem.

This helps Whiskers stay calm and continue his day.

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Later, Whiskers goes to his favourite café. The café is out of his favourite fish treat.

This is a **small problem**.

No one is hurt, and Whiskers is safe.

But Whiskers yowls loudly, knocks over a chair, and runs away.

This reaction is **bigger than the problem**.

Because the reaction does not match:

- People feel confused
- The problem feels bigger than it is
- Whiskers does not get help

**Let's rewrite this part with a reaction that matches the problem:**

When Whiskers learns the café is out of fish treats, he

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That night, Whiskers smells smoke in the alley near his home.

A trash can is on fire.

This is a **big problem**.

There could be danger.

But Whiskers ignores it and curls up to nap.

This reaction is **smaller than the problem**.

Because the reaction does not match:

- The problem may get worse
- Whiskers may not stay safe
- Others do not know help is needed

**Let's rewrite this part with a reaction that matches the problem:**

When Whiskers smells smoke, he

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## **Whiskers Is Learning**

Whiskers is still learning how to:

- Notice the size of the problem
- Choose a reaction that fits

Sometimes Whiskers gets it right.

Sometimes he needs practice.

Learning takes time, and that is okay.