



To my family and students...
you are stronger than your fears.



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There was nothing Max enjoyed more than playing outside with his friends. Today, they played his favorite game of all, Hide 'n Seek.

“One...two...three...,” Casey shouted as Max and Sam sprinted to hide.





Sam hid behind a large rock.

Max crouched between two large bushes.

“Ready or not! Here I come!” Casey shouted as she ran to find her friends.

Max peered through the bushes and thought, *Best. Hiding spot. Ev-er!*
But little did Max know, something else lurked in the bushes that day.



Uh-oh! Guess who found Max first? A swarm of bees!

“Ouch! Stop! Help!” cried Max.

But the bees would not listen and flew right up his shirt!





Max ran inside screaming, *"I GOT STUNG!"*

His mom rushed to his side with an ice pack, as their dog Snuffy fetched Max a box of tissues.

"I'm never playing outside again!" Max sobbed, wiping his tears.

"I know it hurts," said Max's mom, comforting him with a warm hug, "but playing inside forever doesn't sound very fun."

"We'll see about that!" Max bawled.

That night, Max couldn't sleep. At last, he turned to Snuffy, who lay in her doghouse beside Max's bed. *"What am I gonna do Snuffy? How will I tell my friends I'm afraid to play outside?"*

Snuffy was busy chewing on a dog bone, and it gave Max an idea. *"That's it Snuffy! I'll just say I'm busy!"*

