

Tory Osborn and Carmel Gomez are best friends even though they live very far away from **each** other. Tory lives on a farm in upstate New York and Carmel lives in New York City. They only get to be together **once** a **year** when their two **families** visit. Sometimes the Gomez family **goes** to upstate New York and sometimes the Osborns drive to the city.

Tory and Carmel try to write **each** other once a **week** and they chat on-line even more often. Lately, they have been thinking that they would like to change places. Tory thinks the city is so much fun. She loves riding the **subway** and **playing** with the kids from Carmel's apartment complex. There are so many people there that a kid can never get lonely. There is always a game of jacks, or jump rope, or basketball going on. Tory's farm is quite far from any of her friends so she is often **bored**. She also gets **tired** of all her chores.

Carmel thinks Tory is crazy to want to move away from the farm. She thinks the farm is the best place to be. She loves the big, grassy yard and the barn full of animals. She likes to chase the chickens and help milk the **cows**. There aren't many cars and buses so it is **nice** and quiet. She has been begging her mom and dad to visit more often.

Mrs. Gomez said she would call Mrs. Osborn to set up a time for the girls to visit. She did not think the girls would have much fun if they did change places because then they would not have **each** other. Mrs. Osborn said that she would be happy to have Carmel come and visit for a bit. Then Tory could go back and **stay** with Carmel for a while. Mr. Gomez and Mr. Osborn said they could share the driving. Carmel and Tory think this is the best plan ever!

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