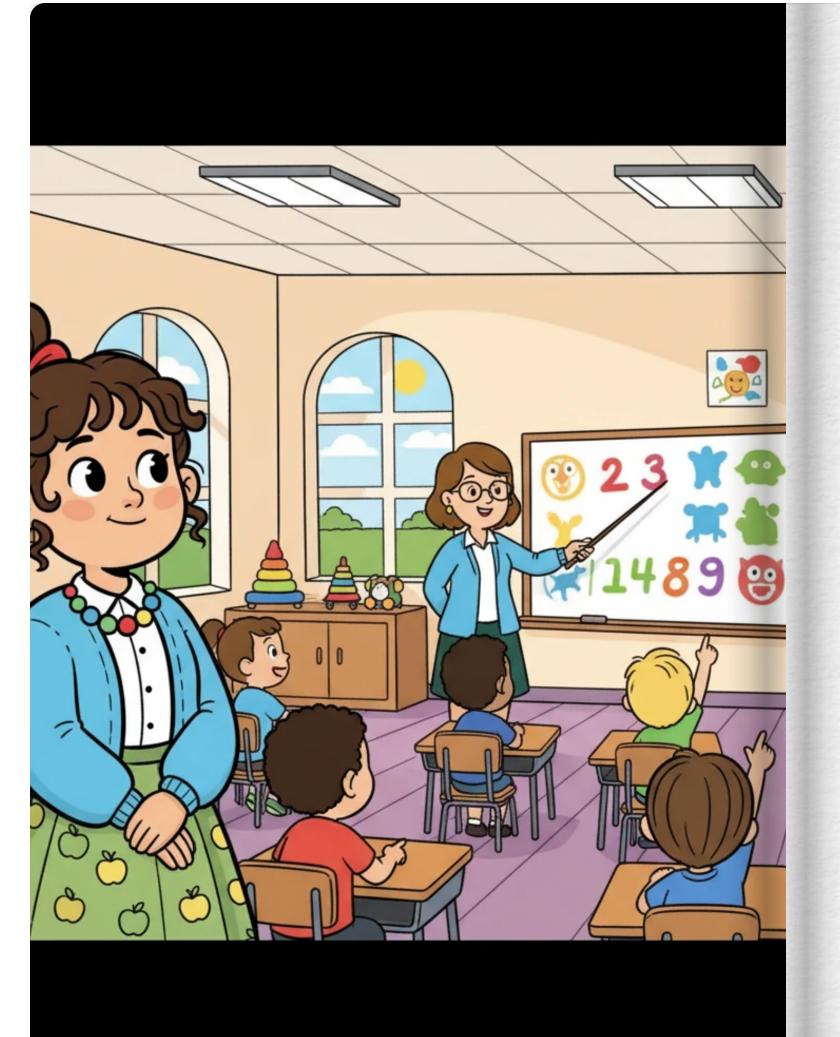


by Alexis Kappelman



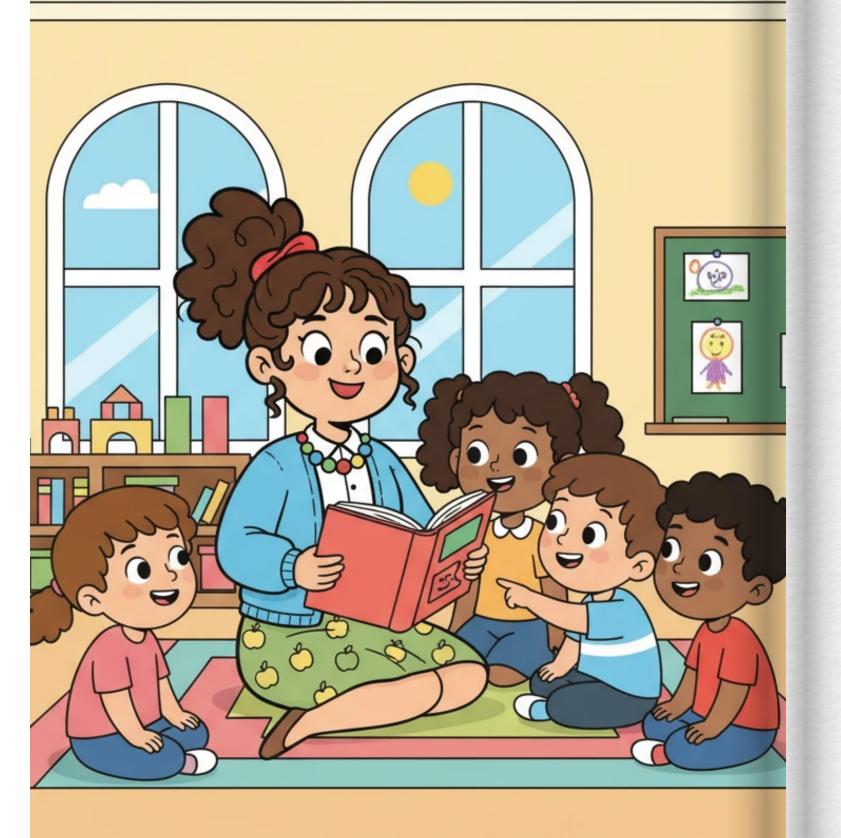
Evelyn, a college student with a beaming smile, sat in a large lecture hall. She was surrounded by eager students all wanting to learn how to teach. The professor discussed the different methods for teaching, and Evelyn scribbled notes furiously, her eyes alight with inspiration.



The next day, Evelyn visited a vibrant, colorful elementary school classroom. She observed a lesson, watching the teacher interact with the children. The children were engaged, and Evelyn felt the first stirrings of her future career, a warm feeling in her heart.



Evelyn was paired with a mentor teacher. They worked together to plan a lesson, discussing the state standards. She learned about different teaching styles and how to adapt to the needs of each student. Her confidence grew with each passing day.



Weekly, Evelyn spent time in the classroom, interacting with the children. She read them stories, helped with projects, and answered their questions. Their laughter and curiosity fueled her passion, and she felt a deep connection with each child.



Evelyn began to plan her own curriculum, based on the state standards. She designed fun and engaging activities, incorporating art, music, and games. She spent hours researching and preparing, determined to create the best learning experience.



Finally, the day arrived when Evelyn taught her first lesson. She stood before the class, took a deep breath, and began. The children listened intently, their eyes filled with wonder. Evelyn knew then that she had found her calling, and her heart swelled with joy.