**"Halloween Surprise"**

On a chilly Halloween night, the moon hung low in the sky, casting an eerie glow over the grassy meadow. Slinky the snake slithered quietly through the tall grass, his scales shimmering. "Tonight is the night, I can feel it!" he hissed excitedly. "There’s a hidden treasure somewhere in the old haunted cornfield!"

Just then, Nibbles the mouse scurried up beside him, her tiny nose twitching. "Did you say treasure? I’m in! But are you sure it’s safe?" she squeaked, a hint of worry in her voice.

"Of course! It’ll be an adventure! Let’s go!" Slinky replied, his enthusiasm contagious.

As they made their way toward the cornfield, they were joined by their friend, Greta the owl, who swooped down from a nearby tree. "What brings you two out here on this spooky night?" she hooted, her big eyes wide with curiosity.

"We’re looking for treasure in the haunted cornfield!" Nibbles exclaimed, her excitement growing.

"Ah, the haunted cornfield! Just be cautious," Greta advised, her wings flapping gently. "There are many tricks and surprises waiting for you."

"Thanks, Greta! We’ll be careful!" Slinky assured her as they continued on their way.

As they approached the cornfield, the wind howled through the stalks, creating ghostly whispers. Suddenly, they heard a rustling sound. Out popped Benny the rabbit, his ears perked up. "Did someone say treasure? I want to join!" he said, bouncing excitedly.

"Sure, the more, the merrier!" Nibbles replied, happy to have another friend along.

The group ventured deeper into the cornfield, where shadows danced around them. "This place is creepy!" Nibbles squeaked, her little heart racing.

Just then, a soft voice floated through the air. "Boo! Don’t be scared!" It was Casper, the friendly ghost, floating gracefully nearby. "I heard you’re looking for treasure. I can help you find it!"

Nibbles squeaked in delight. "Really? That would be amazing!"

"Of course! But first, you must pass through the maze," Casper explained. "And beware of the silly traps!"

The friends exchanged glances, feeling a mix of excitement and apprehension. "We can do it together!" Slinky said confidently.

As they entered the maze, they encountered various spooky decorations—fake spiders, hanging bats, and flickering lights. "Stay close!" Nibbles urged, her heart pounding. They carefully navigated through the twists and turns.

Suddenly, they reached a dead end, and Slinky hissed. "Oh no! What now?"

But just then, Benny spotted a riddle carved into a pumpkin nearby. "Look! A riddle! Maybe it will help us escape!" he said, his eyes shining with hope.

"Let’s hear it!" Nibbles said, her curiosity piqued.

Benny read aloud: "I can fly without wings. I can cry without eyes. Whenever I go, darkness flies. What am I?"

The group thought hard. After a moment, Slinky’s eyes lit up. "A cloud!"

With that answer, the maze walls began to shake, and a hidden path opened up. "Well done!" Casper cheered. "You’ve made it through!"

As they emerged from the maze, they found themselves in a beautiful clearing filled with shimmering moonlight. In the center stood an old chest, covered in vines and glowing softly. "Is this it?" Nibbles gasped.

They approached cautiously, and Slinky opened the chest to reveal a treasure trove of candy, shiny trinkets, and magical Halloween decorations. "We did it!" he hissed joyfully.

Greta swooped down to join them. "Remember, sharing your treasure with friends makes it even more special!"

"Let’s celebrate!" Benny exclaimed, bouncing with excitement.

As they gathered their treasures, Nibbles looked around at her friends. "This was the best Halloween ever! I’m so glad we did this together."

Slinky nodded. "We faced our fears and had fun!"

As they shared their treats and laughed under the moonlight, they realized that the true spirit of Halloween was not just about the treasure but about the adventures and friendships they had built along the way.

Lesson Learned: The real treasure of Halloween is the joy of friendship and the memories we create together. By supporting one another, we can face any challenge and make every adventure unforgettable.