

The Clancy Clan Moves to the Country



The Clancy Clan



See if you can find all 14 places in Culloden where Annabella, Michelle, Tommy and their friends like to play.

1. Candy Store
2. Haunted House
3. Culloden Wharf
4. Pink Rock
5. Billy's Beach
6. Granddad's
7. Frog Pond
8. Clancy's
9. Garden
10. Addington's
11. Fort
12. Blackberry Bushes
13. Monkey Tree
14. Barn

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By:
Colleen O'Flaherty

Illustrated by:
Lorren Lee

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Michelle can't believe it! The day has finally arrived! Today is the day that Michelle and her family are going to move "out in the country" to Culloden in Digby, Nova Scotia where her Granddad and Nanny have a summer cottage near the ocean.



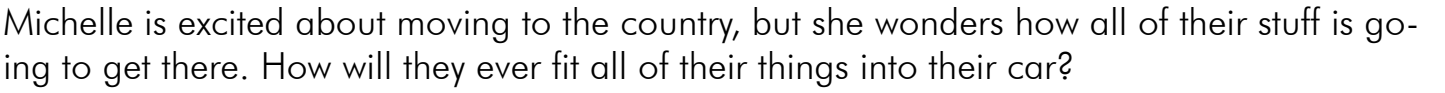


Michelle likes many things about their home in the city. She likes to play on the monkey bars and on the swings with her friends at the local playground.

She also likes to go swimming at the community pool where she slides down the slide into the water and sometimes takes swimming lessons.



A vibrant, hand-drawn illustration of a three-story red brick building. The building features a brown, gabled roof and a series of small, white balconies with brown railings on each floor. The windows are decorated with various colored curtains and flower boxes. The building is set against a bright blue sky with fluffy white clouds. In the background, a white building and a street with a car are visible. The overall style is whimsical and artistic.





Michelle asks her mom, "How are all my toys, all our furniture, and our whole family going to fit in the car?" Her mom smiles and chuckles a little as she says, "Michelle you don't have to worry."

"We are sending all of our things in a big steel box called a "box car" which will be carried by train all the way to Digby. The big yellow tractor that Granddad gave to us to use once we get to Culloden will be in it too."



Michelle, her younger sister Annabella and her older brother Tommy listen to their Mom as she talks about the great adventure they are going to have.



She explains how the long train will carry everything that they own through the forest, over the hills and past the many small towns all the way to Digby. Annabella hopes she can bring her doll, "Big Baby" with her and Tommy wonders how many box cars the train will have.



The children eat their lunch thinking and talking excitedly about this new adventure they are just about to go on. "I'm going to miss my friends," says Annabella. "Me too", says Michelle, as she sadly thinks about leaving her friends behind. "Don't worry though," says Michelle comfortingly as she put her arm around Annabella's shoulder, "we'll make new friends, Annabella." "Yeah, Mom said that the Addington's who live next door have three kids almost the same ages as us," added Tommy as he wondered about what the neighbors would be like. This made Annabella feel a lot better as she thought about meeting a new friend.

After lunch mom says, "It's time to get ready to go now." Since it is such a long drive everyone brings a pillow, a blanket and a favorite toy to play with in the car. Michelle has her book of children's fables, Annabella brings her favourite doll, "Big Baby" to play with and Tommy has a magnetic game of checkers.





Michelle calls for their dog Penny, Annabella calls for Nickel (their other dog) and Tommy reaches down to pick up Missy their cat and holds her tight so she won't squirm out of his arms.

Once everyone is in the car and ready to go on this exciting adventure Dad says, "It's a good thing that this old car is so big, so we can all fit!" And everyone agrees!



It's a long drive from Boulevard St. Jean in Pointe Claire to Culloden in Digby. Tommy and Michelle play magnetic checkers in the car.



They take turns reading the Book of Fables to Annabella while she cradles "Big Baby" until she falls asleep with Penny.

For the last part of the drive Michelle and Tommy fall asleep too. When they wake up they are finally arriving at their new place – a beautiful big house they can call their home.



Michelle can't believe what she sees. There in front of their new house is a huge apple tree full of bright red apples!



Then around the side of the house she spots a pear tree full of yellow pears and a plum tree with hundreds of ripe red plums that had fallen off the tree to the ground below.

After everyone explores the big yard, with all of the wonderful fruit trees Mom says, "Let's go inside the house so that you can choose your rooms and then you can come back outside and play."



As Tommy reaches the top of the stairs he sees that there is a middle room which has two bedroom doors leading off from each side of it. He runs into the little room to the right. "I want this room," yells Tommy. "It has a hatch in the ceiling that looks like it goes to the attic!"



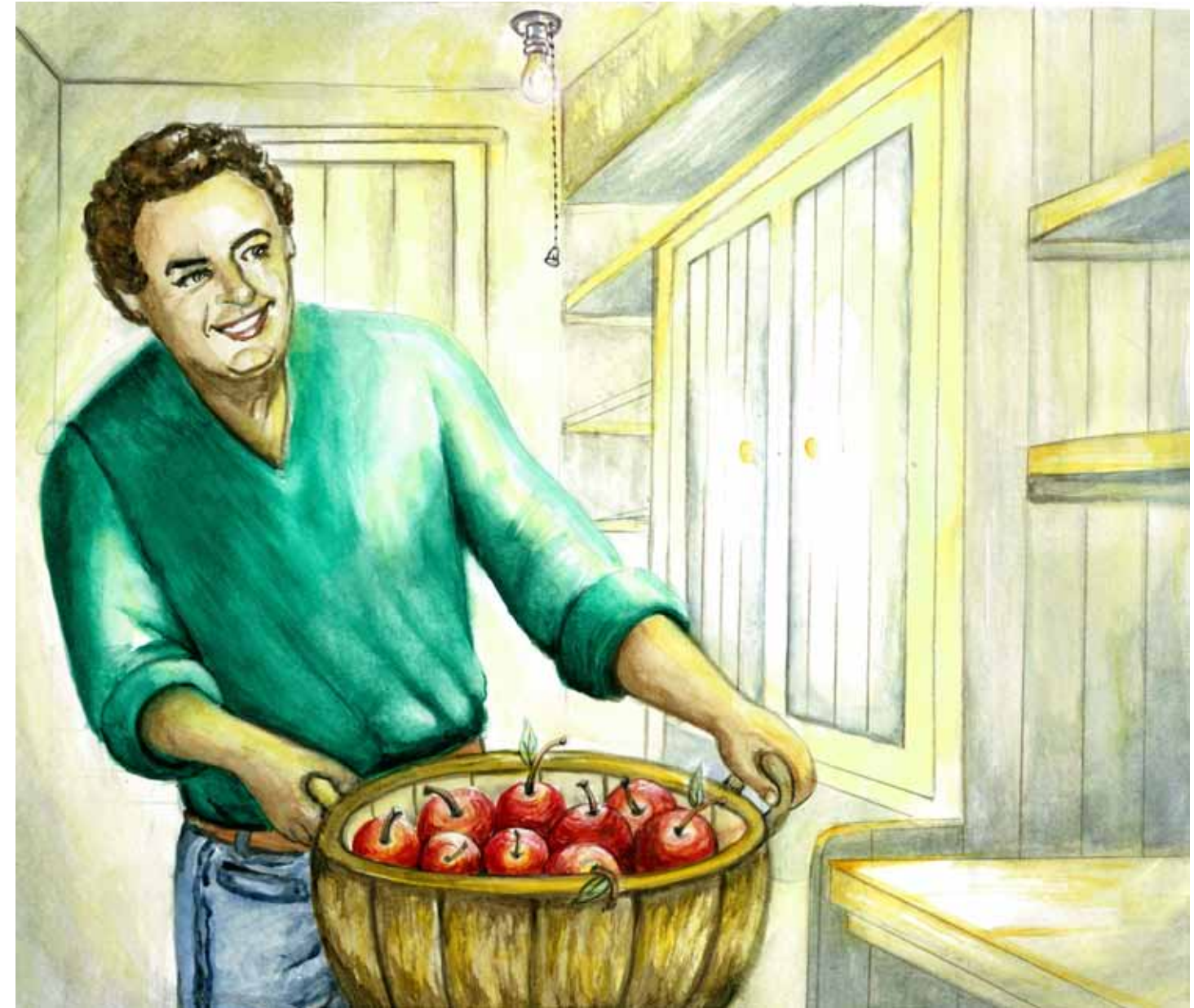
Annabella runs into the large blue room on the left and spins around and around saying, "This is my room. It's so big and it has a window where I can see the apple tree and the whole front yard!"

The “middle room” is the last of the kids’ rooms and Michelle couldn’t be happier. “I want this room with the window facing the ocean! I’ll put my bed by the window so I can see the ocean every night while I’m lying in my bed.”



After the children choose their rooms everyone goes outside to pick apples from the big tree on the front lawn. Tommy and Michelle start to climb the tree to pick apples while Annabella looked longingly up at them. “How about I put you on my shoulders so you can reach the branches and pick some apples with us too?” says Mom to Annabella.

"Can we eat them, Mom"? Michelle asks. "Well, they do look like they are ripe and ready to eat," says Mom. They all had fun picking the apples, but the greatest reward was eating the big yummy apples.



To preserve the other picked apples, Dad brings the full basket into the pantry which is a great big room behind the kitchen where they can store food.



Mom likes her new house. She unpacks boxes that the moving truck brought from the train station before they arrived. And then she organizes the kitchen while supper is cooking on the old fashioned wood stove.

Michelle, Annabella and Tommy spend the rest of the afternoon playing outside with Nickel, Penny and Missy laughing, jumping and running around and around the large lawn.





Later in the afternoon they are so tired, they lie in the grass looking up at the big, fluffy white clouds of various shapes going by. Michelle notices one that looks like a big dragon that has lots of smoke coming out of its mouth.

Suddenly Tommy jumps up and says, "I almost forgot! Today is my birthday!" Also, he realizes that since it has been such a busy day that his Mom might not have remembered that it was his birthday.



Just then Mom calls them for supper and Michelle, Annabella and Tommy run into the house. And guess what they see?



There on the dining room table is a huge, freshly-baked apple pie with eight birthday candles on it. Tommy laughs excitedly, "Oh, Mom! I thought because it was such a busy day, you forgot it was my birthday. You are the best mom in the whole world!"

Mom smiles knowing that this is the first of many birthdays that will be celebrated in their new home out in the country.

