

Testimonial from a SWAN Fostering Foster Carer's Own Child

My family has been fostering for six months now and already I have learnt lots. We got our first and only foster child just three days before Christmas, which was quite an experience as we did not know his likes or dislikes, and we knew that he would want to have Christmas with his parents.

We started to ask questions to learn a bit more about him to be able to make Christmas, and his time with us as exciting as possible.

We made him welcome and he seemed to be comfortable around us.

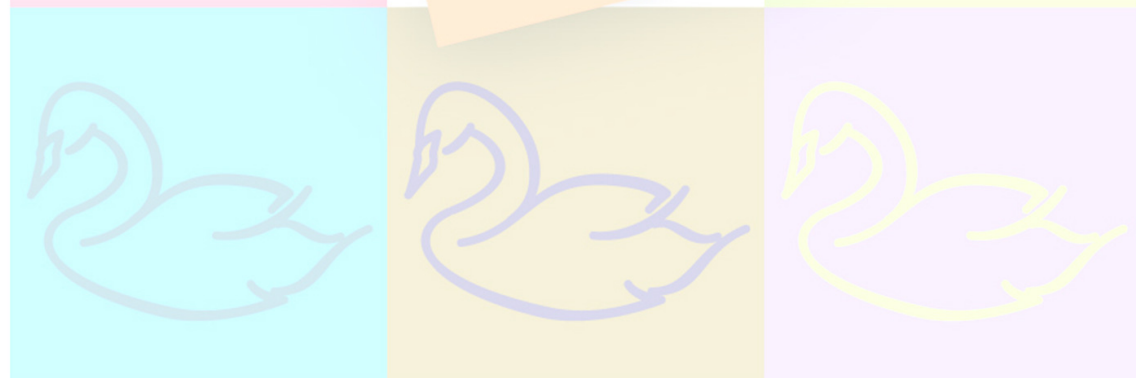
As the time went on I wasn't too keen on the idea of fostering as I didn't like the person that we had fostered, but I think the only reason for that is because he wasn't used to the way my family are and our daily routines.

I used to try to avoid him wherever I went and keep myself to myself. After about 3 to 4 months of him being with us he seemed to become 'one of us' in the way he spoke, acted, our sense of humour and way we prefer to live.

After several arguments and disagreements, I realised how lucky I was to be able to still live with my family.

It was then that I decided to take a walk in his shoes and think about how I would feel if I was taken away from my family and have to settle down with a new family and their routines and way of life that is completely different to my regular life.

Overall, I have learnt that you have to put others before yourself and never judge a book by its cover.



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