走了三个书包的贺卡

小满做了五张手工贺卡，准备六一课间和同学交换。五张贺卡都是她亲手做的，有的贴树叶，有的画小猫，每张背面都写了一句给那个人的话。她把贺卡按名字排好，一张一张塞进自己书包的隔层，隔层里有五个小口袋，一个口袋一张。

可是早读的时候，同桌大宇的书包拉链坏了，敞着口。小满路过时帮他把书包拉上，顺手把自己书包里最外面那张贴树叶的贺卡也按了进去。她没发现，那张是给前排的朵朵的。

第一节课下课，课间交换开始。朵朵来找小满要贺卡，小满翻了五个口袋，一张不少，可贴树叶的那张就是不见了。两个人把书包倒了个底朝天，铅笔、橡皮、糖纸掉了一桌，贺卡不在。

大宇背起书包要去操场，走到门口觉得书包外面鼓了一下。他拉开拉链，从里面摸出一张贴树叶的贺卡。贺卡上写着，朵朵，你借我的半块橡皮我一直记着。大宇不认识朵朵的字，也不认识朵朵，他把贺卡翻过来，在背面添了一行，六一快乐，我是大宇，这张贺卡刚才在我的书包里睡了一节课。

第二节课下课，大宇把贺卡交给班长，说不知道朵朵是谁。班长把贺卡放进自己的书包口袋，打算放学问老师。路上贺卡被三个同学传着看，每个人都在背面添了一句。有人说，这张贺卡走过三个书包了。有人说，那它走过的路比我还多。

放学前的课间，班长终于问清楚了，把贺卡还给小满，让她转交朵朵。小满接过贺卡，本来想说对不起，可是她翻到背面，愣住了。背面写满了字，歪的、直的、大的、小的，一共七行，最后一行是大宇的字，它刚才在我的书包里睡了一节课。

朵朵接过贺卡的时候也愣住了。她把贺卡举高，给全班看。老师说，这张贺卡今天比别的贺卡多走了三个书包，多收了七句话，它是最远的一张贺卡。

那天放学，小满在书包隔层里重新排贺卡。她把贴树叶的那张单独放在最外面的口袋，又在口袋边上贴了一小块胶布。她想，明天开始，五个口袋要一个一个拉好拉链。

The Card That Visited Three Backpacks

Xiaoman made five handmade greeting cards for the break-time exchange on June 1st. Every card was her own work, some with pressed leaves, some with drawn cats, and on the back of each she wrote one sentence for that particular person. She lined them up by name and slid them into the five small pockets of her backpack divider, one card per pocket.

But during morning reading, her deskmate Dayu's backpack zipper was broken and hung open. As she passed, Xiaoman helped pull his bag shut, and in doing so pressed the outermost leaf-card from her own bag into his. She did not notice. That card was meant for Duoduo in the front row.

When the first class ended, the exchange began. Duoduo came to ask for her card.

Xiaoman turned out all five pockets, not one missing, yet the leaf-card was gone. The two of them upended their backpacks, pencils, erasers and candy wrappers covering the desk. The card was not there.

Dayu slung his bag to go to the playground, and at the door felt something bulge. He opened the zipper and fished out a card with a leaf on it. It read, Duoduo, I still remember the half eraser you lent me. Dayu did not know Duoduo's handwriting or Duoduo herself. He turned the card over and added a line, happy Children's Day, I am Dayu, and this card just slept in my backpack for one class.

After the second class, Dayu handed the card to the class monitor, not knowing who Duoduo was. The monitor put it in his own backpack pocket, planning to ask the teacher after school. On the way the card passed through three classmates' hands, and each added a sentence on the back. One said, this card has visited three backpacks. Another said, then it has traveled more roads than I have.

Before the last class, the monitor finally found out and returned the card to Xiaoman to give to Duoduo. Xiaoman took it, about to say sorry, then turned it over and froze. The back was full of writing, crooked and straight, big and small, seven lines in all. The last line was Dayu's: it just slept in my backpack for one class.

When Duoduo received the card she froze too. She held it high for the whole class to see. The teacher said, today this card visited three more backpacks and collected seven more sentences, making it the farthest-traveled card of all.

That afternoon Xiaoman rearranged the pockets of her divider. She put the leaf-card alone in the outermost pocket and stuck a piece of tape beside it. From tomorrow, she decided, every pocket gets its zipper closed, one by one.