

The girl who never gave up

Once there was a girl who loved watching **FOOTBALL!** Her favourite team to watch were Chelsea women. She loved them because of one particular player whose name was Sam Kerr and she wanted to be just like her. But there was one problem . She had **NEVER** played football. Ohhhh how much she wanted to play it. She begged her mum and dad to buy her a football but they said no. **Every** time.

One day, at school, she overheard a kid who played for their local football team talking. He said, "Sorry guys....I've decided to stop playing football. You'll have to find a replacement for me **now!**" She nearly screamed, "**YES!**" but she didn't because she would have gotten told off. When Dad picked her up from school, she told him everything the boy had said. Her dad thought for a while and eventually said, "Yes!"

She was so happy that he said yes. So happy that she danced in the kitchen for 10 whole minutes! That same night, she dreamed of scoring the winning goal for her football club. The next morning, she had a spring in her

step because it was the big day! and , in a flash, she got dressed, ran down the stairs, had her breakfast and got her football boots on.

“In a rush?” asked her Dad.

“Yes of course! I don’t want to be late for football!” she replied.

“It doesn’t start for an hour!” laughed her Dad.

“Then I’ll wait!” she said.

On the way to football, she had butterflies in her tummy. It was a mixture of nerves and excitement. As she stepped onto the field, she prayed that she would be **AMAZING** and score the winning goal. But, instead of going straight into a match, she had to do some training.

During the last 10 minutes, the coach decided they would do a little training match. As the game started, she didn’t get any touches on the ball at all but, in the last minute, it rolled to her. All of her teammates were screaming, “Shoot! Shoot!” and “Kick the ball!” She took her time. Just as she was about to shoot, a boy came in for the challenge and tackled her. He sprinted up the field with the ball and scored. The final whistle was blown. 1-0 to the other team.

She couldn't believe what happened. One minute she had the ball and the next it was in her own net. Tears ran down her cheeks and her body felt numb the whole drive home. When she got back, she went straight up to her room and hid under her duvet. *I'll never play football again* she said to herself. Not after that MASSIVE mistake. Just then, her mum came in. "What's the matter?" she said. "I messed up at football **BIG TIME!**" she replied.

"Don't worry about one little silly mistake," her mum said. "It's happened to everyone in the past!"

"But I'll just do it again in the future!"

"You might but you need to believe that you can do it! Trust me!" her mum said. "Never give up."

She thought for a long time and smiled at her mum.

From then on, she trained and trained for weeks and weeks. She trained so hard that she was given a second chance to play for her local football team! It was an extra big match- it was the final of the league and the winners would get a trophy!

It was a great match, full of action! In the 89th minute, the score was 3-3. The ball rolled over to her.....

She thought quickly and took her shot. It was heading right into the corner then..... **GOAL!** She had done it!!

She forgot all about her mistake!

“This was the greatest day ever. **Ever!**” she screamed!

Her coach was so proud of her and he let her take the trophy home because she hadn't given up.

20 years later, she was playing for Chelsea women's team scoring more goals than ever before!

The End.

By Finn