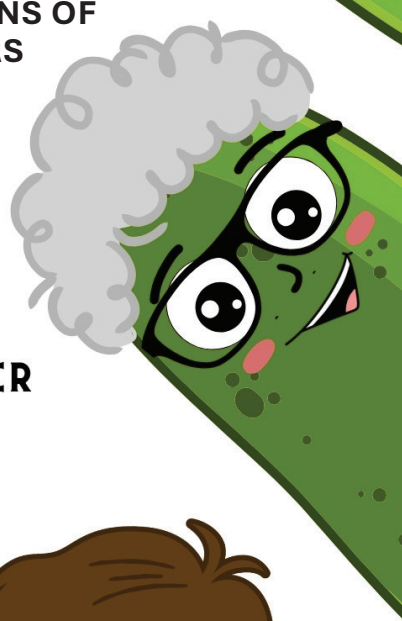




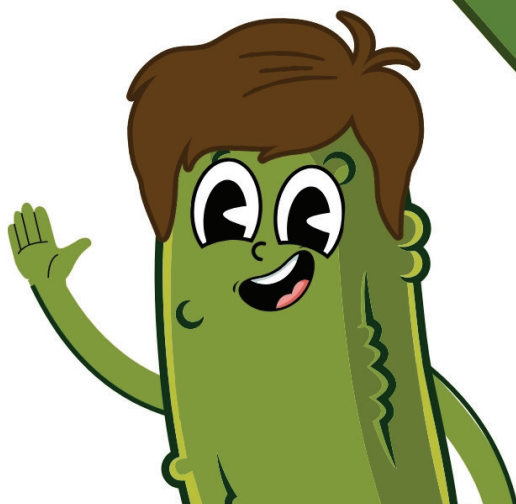
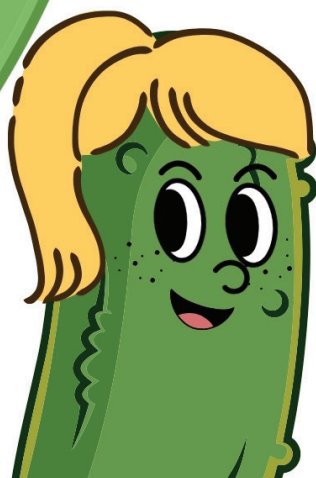
PAXTON PLAYS
Pickleball

**THREE GENERATIONS OF
PICKLEBALLERS**



WRITTEN BY:
BEA GARDNER

ILLUSTRATED BY:
MIA RESNICK



Copyright © 2026 by
Bea Gardner

All rights reserved.

This book, or parts thereof, may not be
reproduced in any form without permission.

Paperback ISBN: 979-8-90183-063-5

E-Book ISBN: 979-8-90183-064-2

Printed in the United States of America

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

PAXTON PLAYS
Pickleball



WRITTEN BY:
BEA GARDNER

ILLUSTRATED BY:
MIA RESNICK



GRAMMY, WE WANT TO PLAY PICKLEBALL!



Paxton and his twin sister Peyton sat under a shady tree by the Pickleball courts. Grandma and Grandpa were out on the court, laughing and playing with their friends.

“Hey Peyton, want to learn Pickleball?” Paxton called.

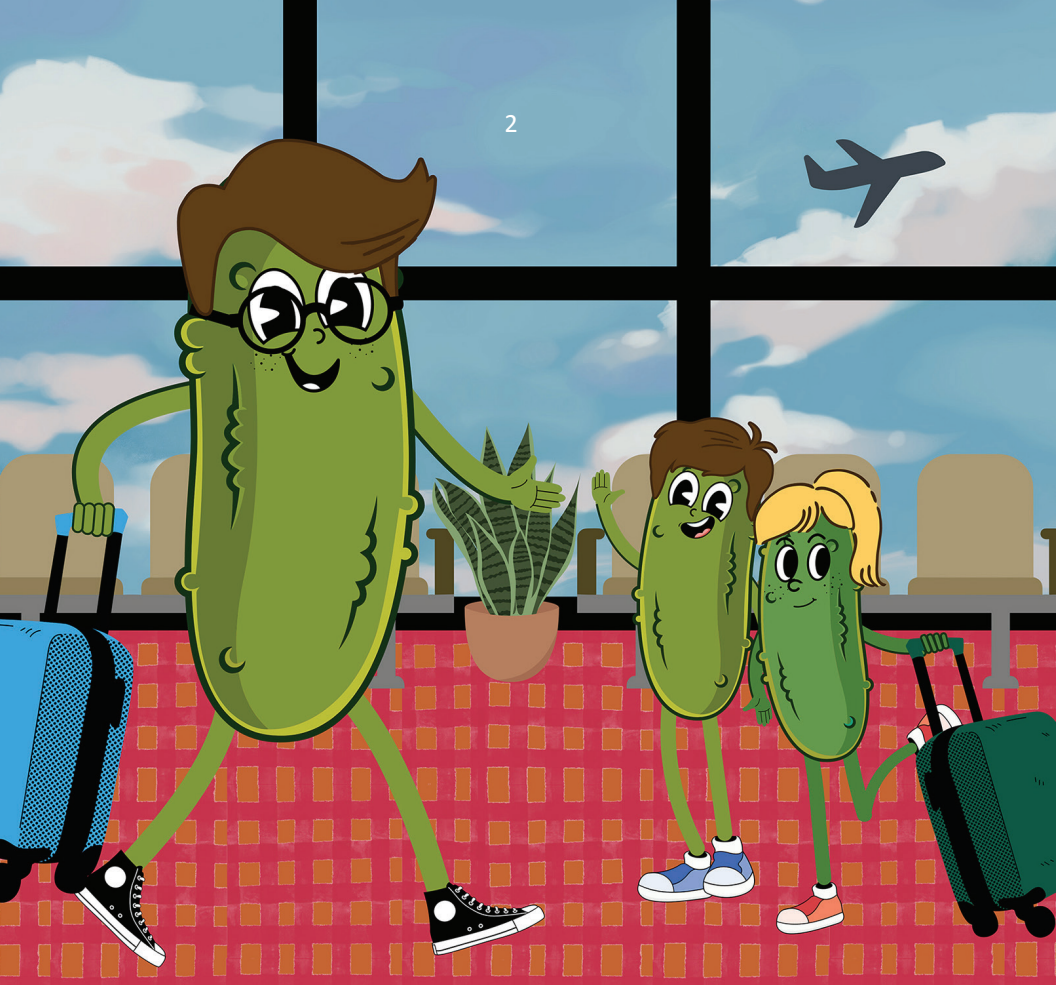
“I guess so,” Peyton shrugged.

When Grammy and Poppy finished their game, they grabbed cold water bottles from their cooler.

“Grammy! I want to learn Pickleball!” Paxton said.
“And I think Peyton does too.”

Grammy smiled. “Well, you’re going home tomorrow. Maybe your dad can teach you. I think he still has the net we gave him.”

Poppy grinned. “One more game, then we’ll go to lunch.”



Daddy picked us up from the airport after we came back from visiting Grammy and Poppy. The second I saw him, I blurted out, “Daddy! Me and Peyton want to play Pickleball. Grammy says you’re the best teacher ever!”

Daddy grinned. “Oh, really? Well, if you two are serious, I must teach you the rules first. Pickleball looks easy, but it’s sneakier than it seems. You’ll need to do a little homework before you can play for real.”

Homework?! I thought he meant playing, not school-work!

We talked on the way home from the airport and Daddy told us Pickleball is usually played with four people. Mommy and Daddy learned it from Grammy and Poppy—so, basically, it’s a family tradition.

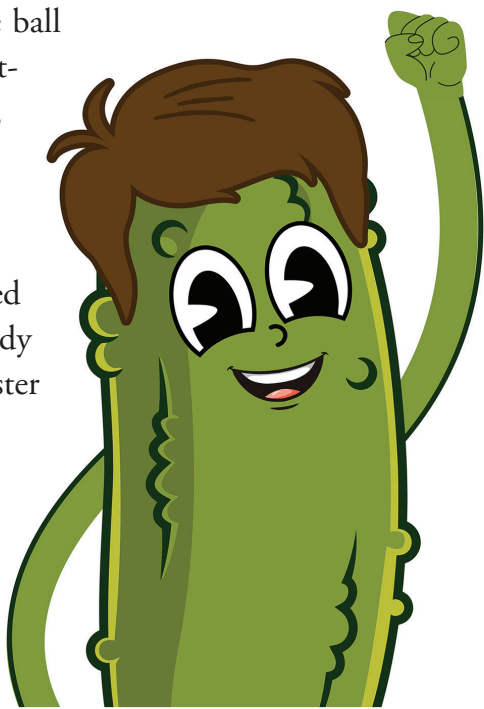
“Can we start tonight?!” I asked.

Daddy shook his head. “Not tonight. Tonight’s my night to play with my buddies. But tomorrow after dinner—game on!”

“YES!” I shouted, throwing my fist in the air like a superhero about to blast off.

After dinner, Peyton zoomed to her room to read one of her summer reading books. She’s such a bookworm, I’m pretty sure she’s part librarian. Daddy fixed my iPad so I could watch a Pickleball game on YouTube. I watched players hit the ball back and forth like lightning, and I thought, I’m going to be just as good as them someday soon.

Paxton went to bed looking forward to Daddy teaching him and his sister how to play tomorrow.



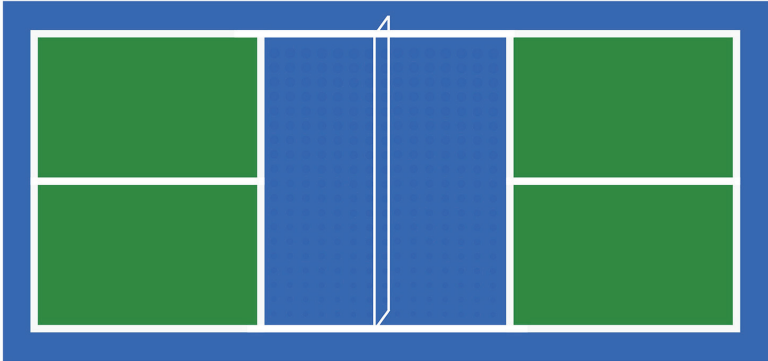
WHAT IS A PICKLEBALL COURT?



Peyton and I took our plates to the sink while Daddy wiped the kitchen table. He got out some sheets of paper and said, “Let the lessons begin. I made a few copies of things I want to teach you kids so we can begin to learn how to play Pickleball. We will start by learning the lay-out of the court and a few other tips of the game.” Daddy gave me and Peyton some pictures of the court and copied a few basic tips of the game while Mommy finished cleaning the kitchen.

“I made a drawing of a Pickleball court,” said Daddy as he gave copies to Peyton and me. Now I can point out the different parts of the court,” he told us. “It’s kind of like a mini tennis court.” Daddy said as he began to point out important parts of the court.

“Let’s break it down so it’s easy to understand, like a story” said Daddy as he began by showing them the picture of a Pickleball court.



He pointed, “The Net” goes across the middle of this blue area and that black line you see is the net. You hit the ball over it.”

He went on to explain the kitchen. “This is a funny name for the area close to the net. You’re not allowed to hit the ball while standing in the kitchen unless the ball bounces first.”

Mommy said, “I heard that but it does not mean to stay out of THIS kitchen”. We all laughed.

Daddy explained this a little more. He showed us the area in the drawing that was a different color and told us “That’s what they call the kitchen. It’s really the no volley

part of the court”. He told us he would explain the special rules for the “kitchen” at a later lesson.

He then showed us the service boxes. “These are the two big rectangles on each side of the court where you aim your serve,” he said.

