# Lino: A Place for the Late Parcel

A story about checking both sides

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Ages 5–7





Knock, knock. One late parcel waited beneath the baobab. Lino carried it to the receiving desk. Inside were forty-six wooden beads. Three deliveries were already in order: thirty-eight, fifty-two, and sixty-one.



Lino slid the mint window between fifty-two and sixty-one. “Forty-six is fewer than sixty-one. That side fits.” Then he paused. His paw covered the neighbor mark he had not checked.



“What does the other neighbor tell you?” asked the elephant. Lino checked fifty-two. “Mine has fewer beads. It cannot come after that crate.” He kept every bead and left the old line in place.



Lino moved the window one place left. Now the neighbors were thirty-eight and fifty-two. “Thirty-eight, forty-six, fifty-two. Both sides fit.” Only the new parcel joined the line. The wooden stamp went tap.



Another parcel held five beads. Lino tried the very beginning. “No left neighbor here. I can check the right one.” Five was fewer than thirty-eight. The beginning was a place too.



The final parcel held fifty-two beads, just like one already waiting. Before that matching crate worked. Just after it worked too. Lino chose a legal place. “Same can stand by same.”



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## One new parcel.
## Both neighbors checked.

When a choice has two sides, check them both. If one side does not fit yet, change your place and try again.

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