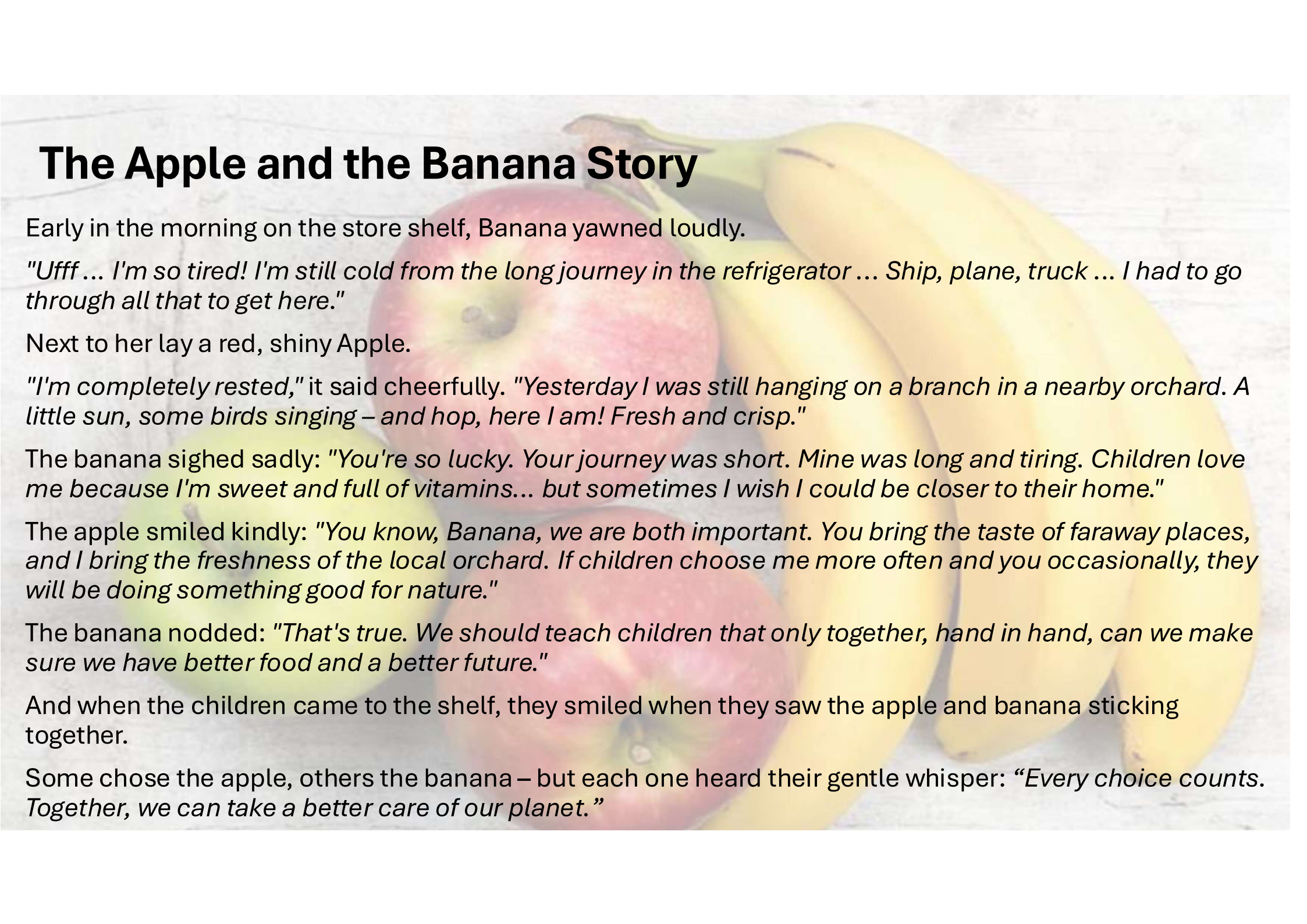


A red apple and a yellow banana are shown on a light-colored, textured surface. The apple is on the left, and the banana is on the right, partially overlapping the apple. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light gray.

The Apple and the Banana Story

Early in the morning on the store shelf, Banana yawned loudly.

"Ufff ... I'm so tired! I'm still cold from the long journey in the refrigerator ... Ship, plane, truck ... I had to go through all that to get here."

Next to her lay a red, shiny Apple.

"I'm completely rested," it said cheerfully. "Yesterday I was still hanging on a branch in a nearby orchard. A little sun, some birds singing – and hop, here I am! Fresh and crisp."

The banana sighed sadly: *"You're so lucky. Your journey was short. Mine was long and tiring. Children love me because I'm sweet and full of vitamins... but sometimes I wish I could be closer to their home."*

The apple smiled kindly: *"You know, Banana, we are both important. You bring the taste of faraway places, and I bring the freshness of the local orchard. If children choose me more often and you occasionally, they will be doing something good for nature."*

The banana nodded: *"That's true. We should teach children that only together, hand in hand, can we make sure we have better food and a better future."*

And when the children came to the shelf, they smiled when they saw the apple and banana sticking together.

Some chose the apple, others the banana – but each one heard their gentle whisper: *"Every choice counts. Together, we can take a better care of our planet."*