



Nana

Really old. Kind. Sweet.
Forgetful. Loves books and
old movies. Makes the best
Pavlova in the world.

Katie

BFF. 10 like me.

Funny. Smart. Kind. Lives one
block away. Loves sport.
Makes me laugh more than
anyone else in the world.



Then there's me. Liz. So here I am . . .



Name: Elizabeth (but
everyone calls me Liz) Watson.

Age: 10 and more than
three quarters (my
birthday is in seven weeks).

Hair colour: Blondey
brown—mostly worn in a
ponytail coz it gets in my face.

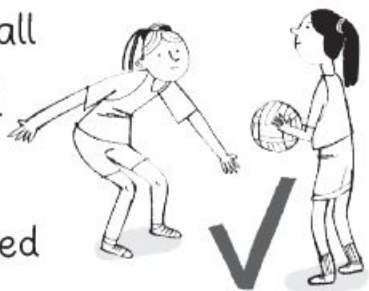
Face: Brown eyes, one dimple
on the right side of my mouth.

Personality: Quiet and
shy, except around my family
and Katie. Loves reading.

Makes **great** cupcakes.



And you can't just take the ball off someone like in basketball because netball is a non-contact sport. That sounded good to me! I was always scared of getting knocked over and going **splat** right on the court in front of everyone when I was playing basketball (obviously **super embarrassing**).



After she talked (for AGES!) Michelle put the group in pairs and got them to throw the ball back and forth to each other.



Then she made them stand in front of her in two lines and she threw the ball to one person, while the other one had to defend. I started getting a bit twitchy on the bench. My legs were **jiggling** up and down, like they wanted to jump up, run out onto the court and join in, but I stayed put. Michelle gave everyone a quick break and Katie came straight up to me. As

onto the wrong part of the court.



The umpire was really nice though, and after she blew her whistle, she always explained what we'd done wrong in a nice voice.

Mum, Dad and Nana shouted and **cheered** all the way through the game, like the rest of the parents. And even Matt

looked like he was enjoying it, even though he's never watched a netball game in his life. Damo spent most of the game doing handstands and 'the worm' on the grass near the courts, until Mum finally made him sit down next to her to watch.



I'd played so badly that I wanted to do at least one good thing at the end of the game.

The mean umpire blew her whistle and I dodged around my player as best I could and ran out to get the ball from Olivia.

She looked at me and I could tell she was wondering if she should throw it to me or Katie, but in the end, she decided to throw it to me.

BIG mistake!

The WD was waving her arms around in front of me and I just panicked! I couldn't help it. Without thinking, I suddenly just bounced the ball. Can you believe it?

I BOUNCED THE BALL!



I mean, that would have been fine if I was playing basketball, but I wasn't, was I? I was playing netball and you're not allowed to dribble or bounce the ball in netball.

I crouched down, ready for take-off, and as soon as I heard the whistle I raced out! Everything happened so fast that it was a bit of a blur. All I remember is seeing the ball **flying** in the air towards the Goal Attack, and just before she could get her hands on it, I snatched it out of the air, spun on my toes, careful not to step, and hurled it straight to a stunned Katie.



Katie passed it to Finley, Finley passed it to Elyssa, Elyssa passed it back to Katie, who shot a goal just as the siren went.

WE'D WON!

Everyone on the side of the court went crazy and my whole team crowded around, clapping me on the back and high fiving me.

