



Val's Lake Lunch



It was the eve of Pete's trip to see Val. Val wanted to make him a grand lunch.



"I will pick a lake theme," she said. "Pete likes to fish!" Val took a pen and wrote a list of ten dishes.



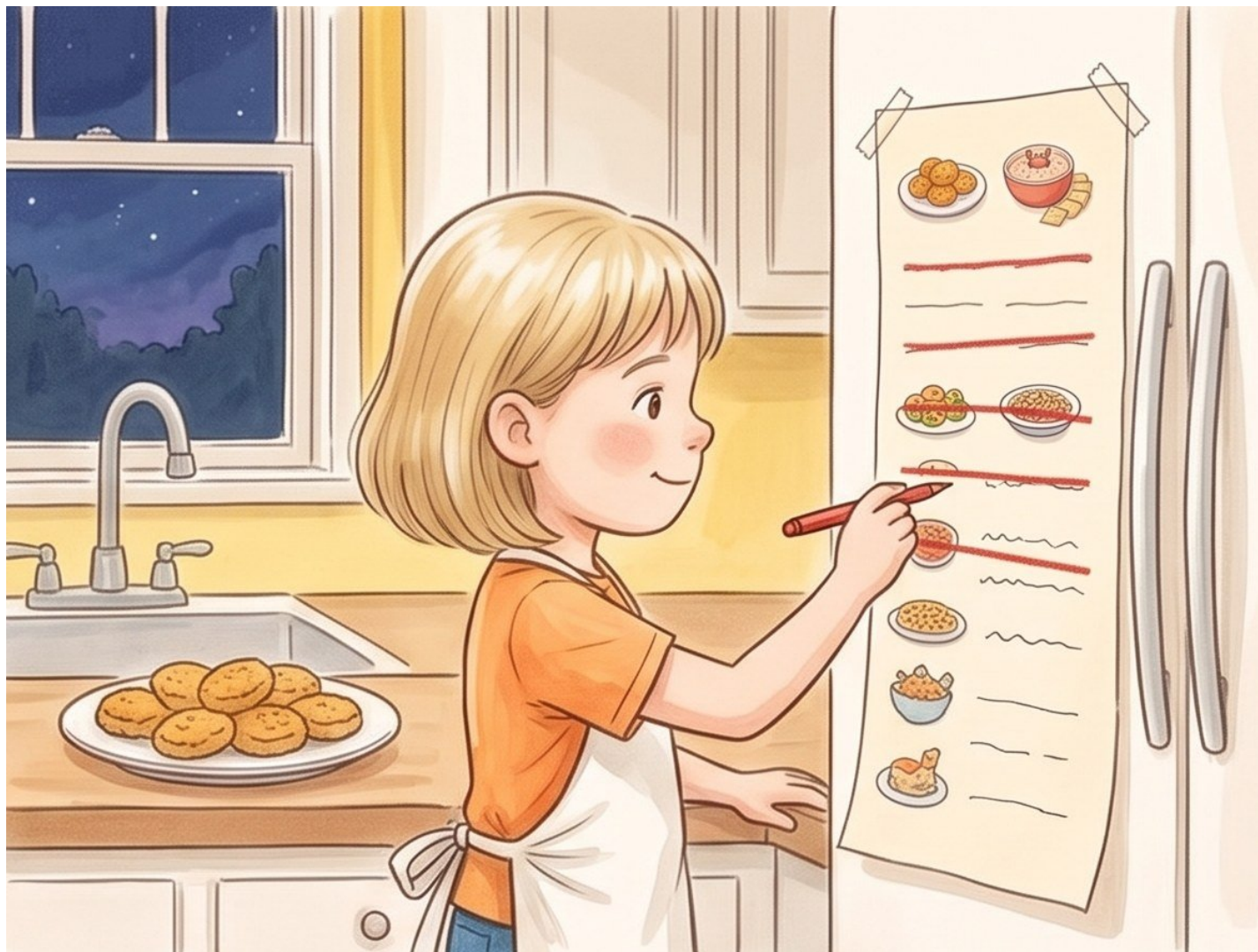
It had fish cakes, crab dip, a blue lake cake,
and seven more.



It was an extreme list, but Val felt sure she could complete it. She started to chop and mix.



The clock ticked on, and it got late. Val had made just one dish! "I will never complete all of these in time," she said.



"Ten is too many." So Val picked up her pen. She deleted one dish, then one more, and then five more.



Only three were still on the list: the fish cakes, the crab dip, and the lake cake. Val made these three very well. Then the big day came.



Pete saw the lake scene on the cake and ate every bite of his lunch. "Val, this lunch is supreme," he said with a sincere smile.