

# Comprehension

## Pupil Book 1



**John Jackman**

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## Cheeky chimps on the motorway



Drivers were surprised to see monkeys running all over the road yesterday. The lorry taking them to their new home at Burwell Zoo had broken down. While the lorry driver went to get help, one of the monkeys managed to lift the latch on the door. Inspector Baker said the monkeys looked like they were having great fun.

They climbed all over the road signs and scrambled up the lampposts. One even sat on top of the police car! Some drivers got irate because of the traffic jam, but most drivers were prepared to see the funny side.

"I'm pleased to say all the cheeky chimps are now safely back in the zoo," said Inspector Baker last night.

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

1. The monkeys escaped from a \_\_\_\_\_. (ship, lorry, train)
2. It was taking them to a \_\_\_\_\_. (forest, zoo, circus)
3. They got out through the \_\_\_\_\_. (door, window, roof)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ of the car drivers thought it was funny. (Most, All, None)
5. The police inspector called them \_\_\_\_\_.  
(cheeky chimps, silly sausages, mad monkeys)

## More to think about

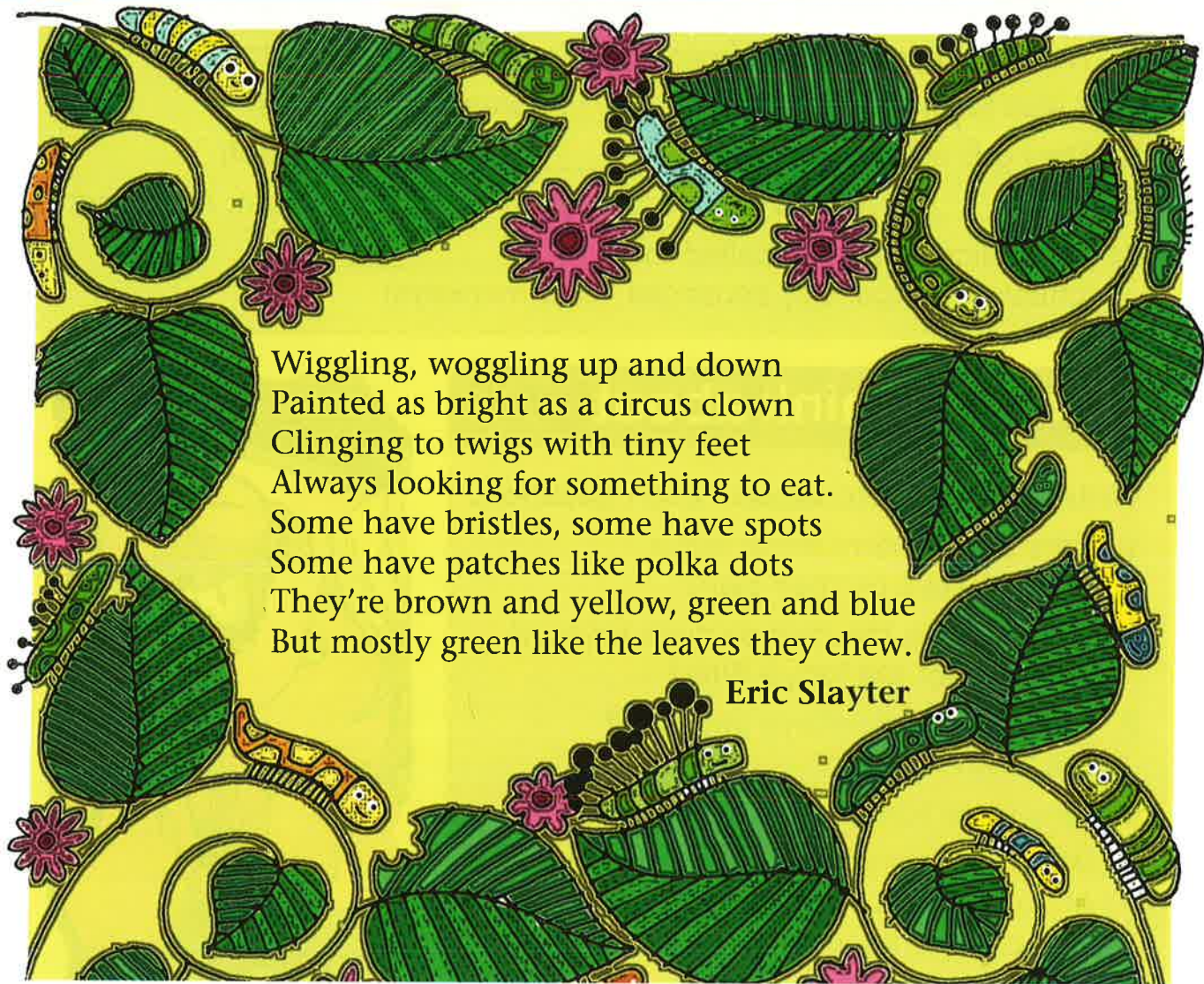
Write a sentence to answer each question.

1. Why did the lorry driver leave the monkeys on their own?
2. Do you think the chimps were pleased to be out of the lorry? Why?
3. How did the monkeys get out of the lorry?
4. Why were some of the drivers cross?
5. Write these phrases in your own words.
  - a) some drivers got irate
  - b) most drivers were prepared to see the funny side



## Now try these

1. Imagine you are one of the monkeys. Write the article from your point of view.
2. One of the drivers writes a letter to the zoo complaining about the incident. Pretend you are the driver and write the letter.
3. Where do you think the monkeys would prefer to be: in the zoo, loose on the road or in the jungle? Explain your answer.



Wiggling, woggling up and down  
Painted as bright as a circus clown  
Clinging to twigs with tiny feet  
Always looking for something to eat.  
Some have bristles, some have spots  
Some have patches like polka dots  
They're brown and yellow, green and blue  
But mostly green like the leaves they chew.

Eric Slayter

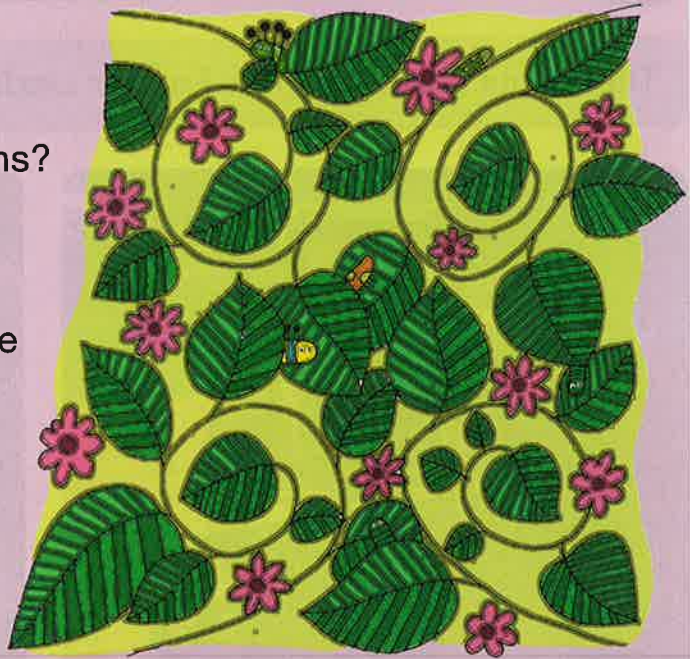
## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

1. The caterpillars look like \_\_\_\_\_. (clowns, butterflies)
2. They are clinging to twigs with their \_\_\_\_\_. (hands, feet)
3. They are looking for something to \_\_\_\_\_. (eat, drink)
4. Caterpillars eat \_\_\_\_\_. (flowers, leaves)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the most usual colour of caterpillars. (Yellow, Green)

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) In what way are some caterpillars like circus clowns?
  - b) Are all caterpillars smooth to touch?
  - c) What different sorts of patterns do caterpillars have on their bodies?
  - d) Is it easier to spot a green or a blue caterpillar on a green leaf?
  - e) Why is it better for caterpillars if they are hard to find?



2. Match a word from each box to make pairs of words that have similar meanings. One has been done to help you.

clinging = holding

clinging    chewing  
tiny        looking  
dots

small        spots  
searching    holding  
munching

## Now try these

1. Find a word in the poem that rhymes with:
  - a) down    b) feet    c) spots    d) blue.
2. The poet says some caterpillars look like clowns. Make a list of anything else they remind you of.
3. Choose another insect. Write a poem describing what the insect looks like and what it does.

These four pictures show Farmer Lindsay at work.



1

ploughing



2

raking the soil



3

sowing the seed



4

?

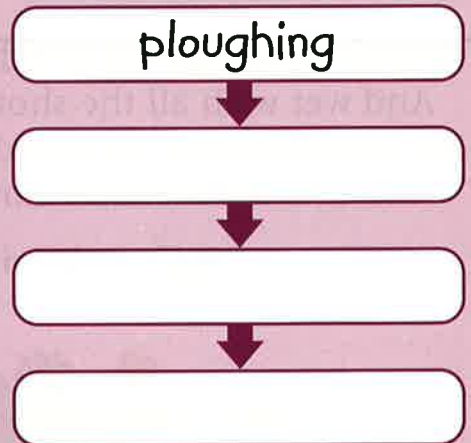
## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

1. In picture 1 the farmer is \_\_\_\_\_. (sowing, ploughing)
2. After ploughing, he \_\_\_\_\_ the soil. (rolls, rakes)
3. The ground is now ready for sowing the \_\_\_\_\_. (buttons, seed)
4. The seed needs \_\_\_\_\_ to help it grow. (rain, wind)

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) What job is being done in picture 4?
  - b) Which season does picture 4 show?
2. Copy the flow chart and fill in the boxes to show the process of farming.



## Now try these

1. Imagine you are a farmer. Copy and complete the table.

Things I like about being a farmer	Things I dislike about being a farmer

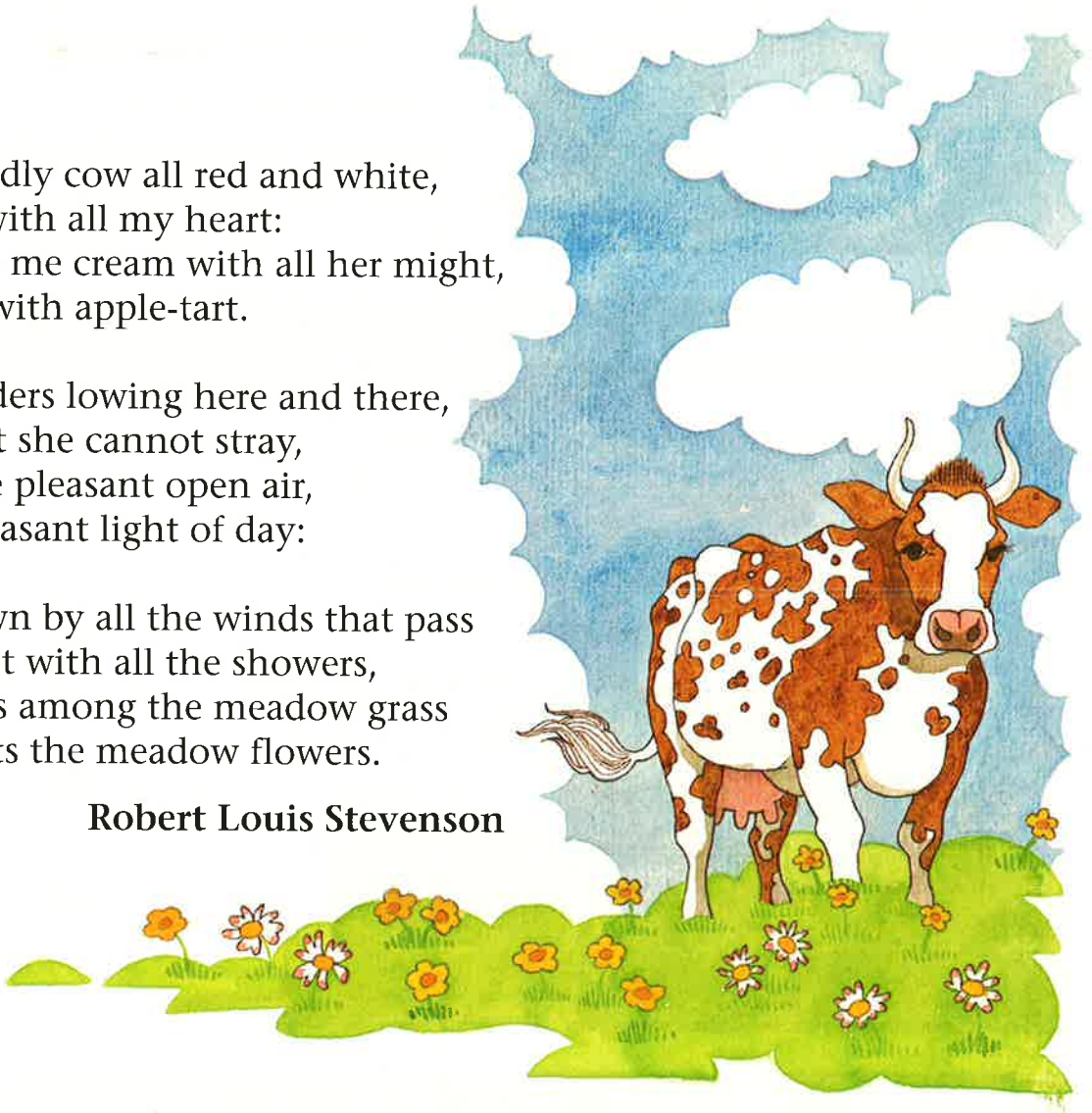
2. Choose one of the pictures. Write Farmer Lindsay's diary entry about a day on the farm, using the picture to help you.

The friendly cow all red and white,  
I love with all my heart:  
She gives me cream with all her might,  
To eat with apple-tart.

She wanders lowing here and there,  
And yet she cannot stray,  
All in the pleasant open air,  
The pleasant light of day:

And blown by all the winds that pass  
And wet with all the showers,  
She walks among the meadow grass  
And eats the meadow flowers.

Robert Louis Stevenson



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences.

Choose the correct ending to finish each sentence.

1. The cow in the poem  
a) is friendly.    b) is aggressive.    c) is shy.
2. Her coat is  
a) brown.    b) red and white.    c) black and white.

3. Some of her milk is made into  
a) yoghurt.    b) cheese.    c) cream.
4. She wanders about  
a) in silence.    b) making contented sounds.  
c) making a lot of noise.
5. When it rains  
a) she gets wet.    b) she is brought inside.  
c) she keeps dry under the trees.



## More to think about

1. Read these sentences about the poem.  
Write 'true' or 'not true' for each one.
  - a) She likes to eat meadow flowers.
  - b) She keeps getting out of her field.
  - c) She lives all day in a barn. *not true*
  - d) She stays outside in the wind. *not true*
2. Find words in the poem that rhyme with the following words.  
a) might    b) there    c) heart    d) flowers

## Now try these

1. Think carefully about these questions.  
Write sentences to answer each one.
  - a) Do you think the poet owns the cow? Explain your answer.
  - b) The poet mentions the cream given by the cow.  
What other reasons might he have for loving her?
  - c) What word does the poet use to make you know he likes  
the outdoor life?
2. Find these words in the poem.  
Explain what they mean in your own words.
  - a) with all my heart    b) with all her might    c) pleasant

## Keeping Small Animals



by James Matthews  
Illustrated by Sarah Richards

### Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose words from the box to fill each gap.

draws

writes

Sarah Richards

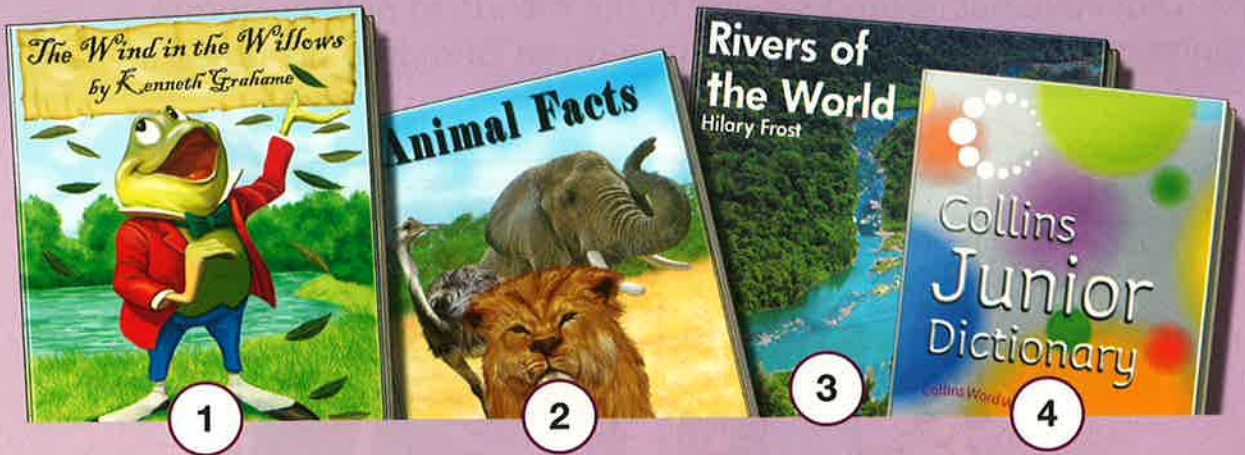
James Matthews

Keeping Small Animals

1. The title of the book is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The author of the book is called \_\_\_\_\_.
3. An author is the person who \_\_\_\_\_ the words.
4. The name of the illustrator of the book is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. An illustrator is the person who \_\_\_\_\_ the pictures.

# More to think about

Look at these book covers. Write numbers to answer each question.



1. Which is the story book?
2. In which book could I check the meaning of a word?
3. Which book did Hilary Frost write?
4. In which book might I find facts about elephants?
5. Which book will help me check the spelling of a word?
6. Which book might tell me about the River Amazon?
7. Which of the books was written by Kenneth Grahame?
8. In which two books might I discover more about where alligators live?

## Now try these

1. Write the title and author of one of each of these types of book that you can find in your classroom. Some of the books you choose might have more than one author.

A book that:

- a) tells you about birds.
  - b) has a story.
  - c) helps you with spelling words.
  - d) has lots of pictures.
  - e) is about another country.
  - f) is your favourite.
2. Write a book review of a book you have read recently. Remember to explain why you liked or disliked it.

# Gumdrop Has a Birthday

Mr Oldcastle has invited several of his friends to help celebrate Gumdrop's birthday. After they have given Gumdrop his presents ...



... the guests gathered round Gumdrop to wish him Many Happy Returns and another fifty years of happy motoring. "For he's a jolly good fellow," they sang, and "Happy birthday, dear Gumdrop, happy birthday to you!"

Mr Oldcastle was very happy and he thanked them all for Gumdrop's sake.

"And here is the birthday cake!" he said.

But it wasn't on the table – and it hadn't rolled away. It had vanished!

"Who took the cake!" he cried.

Horace was very happy too.

He sat on the ground and he looked very fat. There wasn't a crumb to be seen, because he likes cakes.



Val Biro

## Do you remember?

Write the correct answer to each question.

- Whose birthday is it?
  - It is Gumdrop's birthday.
  - It is Mr Oldcastle's birthday.
- What is Gumdrop?
  - Gumdrop is a van.
  - Gumdrop is an old car.
- What is the name of Mr Oldcastle's dog?
  - The dog's name is Rover.
  - The dog's name is Horace.



## More to think about

Read these sentences about the story.

Write 'true', 'false', 'probably' or 'can't tell' for each one.

- Mr Oldcastle is very fond of Gumdrop.
- Gumdrop is 50 years old.
- Mr Oldcastle is the most popular person in the village.
- The birthday cake vanished.
- The cake had rolled under Gumdrop.
- Horace had eaten the cake.

## Now try these

- Mr Oldcastle invited his friends to Gumdrop's party. Write the party invitation using as many details as you can.
- Imagine you are Horace. Tell the story of the birthday party from your point of view.
- Do you think Mr Oldcastle would have swapped Gumdrop for a smart and shiny new car? Give your reasons.

## Inside the nest

Tiny tunnels lead into the nest.

Each nest is a mass of tunnels and rooms.

## Types of ant

In every nest there are three types of ant.

The biggest are the queen ants.

Queen ants have wings.

The big males also have wings, but aren't quite as big.

The small ants are the worker ants, and they don't have wings.



## Who does what?

A queen ant lives in one room of the nest. She stays in her room all the time and lays hundreds of eggs.

The big male ants mate with a queen, then die.

The worker ants collect the food. They feed the young ants, keep the nest clean, and dig more rooms and tunnels as they are needed. They also keep away ants from other nests.

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. Inside an ants' nest is a mass of \_\_\_\_\_ and rooms.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ types of ant.
3. The biggest ants are the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ants are the smallest.
5. A queen ant's main job is to lay the \_\_\_\_\_.

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) What are the three types of ant?
  - b) Which two types of ant have wings?
  - c) Who looks after the young ants?
  - d) Why do there need to be so many worker ants for each queen?
2. Find two facts for each type of ant to complete the table.

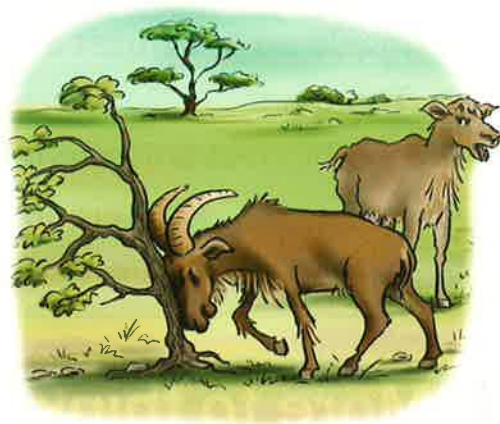
Queen ant	Male ant	Worker ant

## Now try these

1. Imagine you suddenly shrink and become ant-sized. You explore an ants' nest. Write a report about what you find.
2. Ants are tiny, but when they work together they can do things they couldn't manage by themselves. Write down five things you can do alone, and five things you can do only with other people to help.

Thunder and Lightning were two grumpy old sheep. Lightning would lose his temper and knock down trees and burn the crops. Thunder, his mother who had an extremely loud voice, would shout at him.

The villagers became really fed up with them. The villagers kept complaining about the damage – and the noise!



In the end, the village chief said he couldn't stand it any longer. He said they would have to go far away. He sent them to live in the sky!

But things didn't work out as the chief intended. To this day, Lightning still enjoys getting his own back on the villagers, and Thunder still shouts at the top of her voice and keeps the villagers awake at night.

Nigerian folk story

## Do you remember?

Copy the answers to these questions.

Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

1. Where did this legend come from?

This legend came from \_\_\_\_\_. (Malawi, Nigeria)

2. What were Thunder and Lightning?

Thunder and Lightning were \_\_\_\_\_. (sheep, old men)

3. What did Lightning do to the crops?

Lightning \_\_\_\_\_ the crops. (burnt, watered)

4. Where did the village chief send them?

The village chief sent them to live in the \_\_\_\_\_. (field, sky)

## More to think about

1. Read these sentences about the story. Copy them in the right order.

5

**Lightning still upsets the villagers.**

4

**He sent them away to live in the sky.**

1

**Thunder and Lightning were two troublesome sheep.**

2

**The villagers became very annoyed.**

6

**Thunder still grumbled away in her loud, booming voice.**

3

**Eventually the village chief could stand it no longer.**

2. Copy these two lists of words.  
Draw lines to join words that have similar meanings. One has been done to help you.

fed up  
complain  
banished  
eventually  
troublesome

naughty  
in the end  
sent away  
object to  
annoyed



## Now try these

1. Imagine that you were a villager in this legend. Write about what happened, what you did about it and how you felt.
2. What do you think Thunder says to Lightning when she shouts at him?
3. Thunder and lightning are words which often go together. Make a list of other pairs of words. Two have been done to help you.

fish and chips

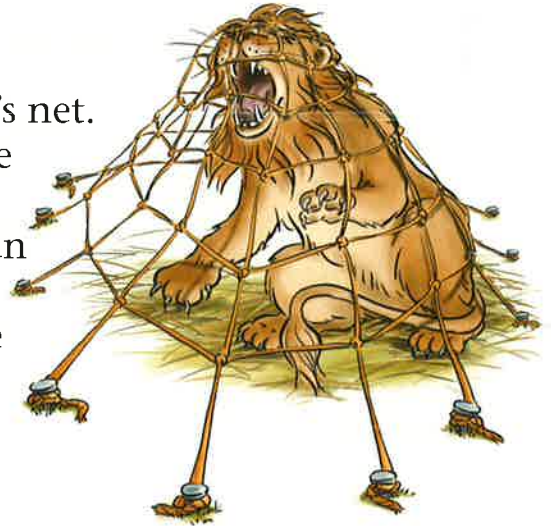
table and chair



One day a mouse happened to run over the paws of a sleeping lion. Angrily the mighty beast woke. He was about to crush the little animal when the mouse cried out, "Please, mighty king of all the animals, spare me. I would be only a tiny mouthful, and I'm sure you would not like the taste. Besides, I might be able to help you some day. You never can tell."

The idea that this tiny creature could ever help him amused the lion so much that he let his little prisoner go.

Some time after this the lion, roaming in the forest for food, was caught in a hunter's net. The more he struggled the more he became stuck; his roar of rage echoed through the forest. Hearing the sound the mouse ran to the trap and began to gnaw the ropes that bound the lion. It was not long before he had bitten through the last cord with his little teeth and set the huge beast free.



**Don't belittle little things.**

Aesop's Fables

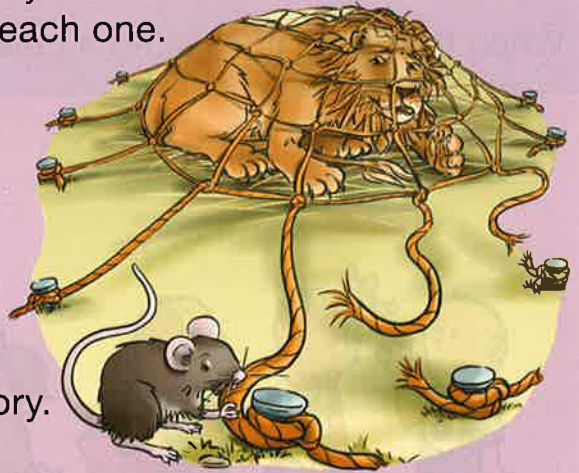
## Do you remember?

**Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.**

1. The lion was going to \_\_\_\_\_ the mouse.
2. The mouse said he would only be a \_\_\_\_\_ mouthful.
3. Mouse said he might be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the lion some day.
4. Lion became trapped in a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The mouse helped free the lion by \_\_\_\_\_ at the ropes.

## More to think about

1. Read these sentences about the story.  
Write 'true', 'false' or 'can't tell' for each one.
  - a) The mouse pulled the lion's tail to wake him.
  - b) The lion was angry.
  - c) He ate the little mouse.
  - d) When the lion was trapped the mouse released him.
  - e) The animals live in Africa.
2. Read these sentences about the story.  
Copy them in the right order.



**The mouse persuaded the lion to set him free.**

**The lion was trapped in the forest.**

**A little mouse woke a lion.**

**The lion grabbed the mouse.**

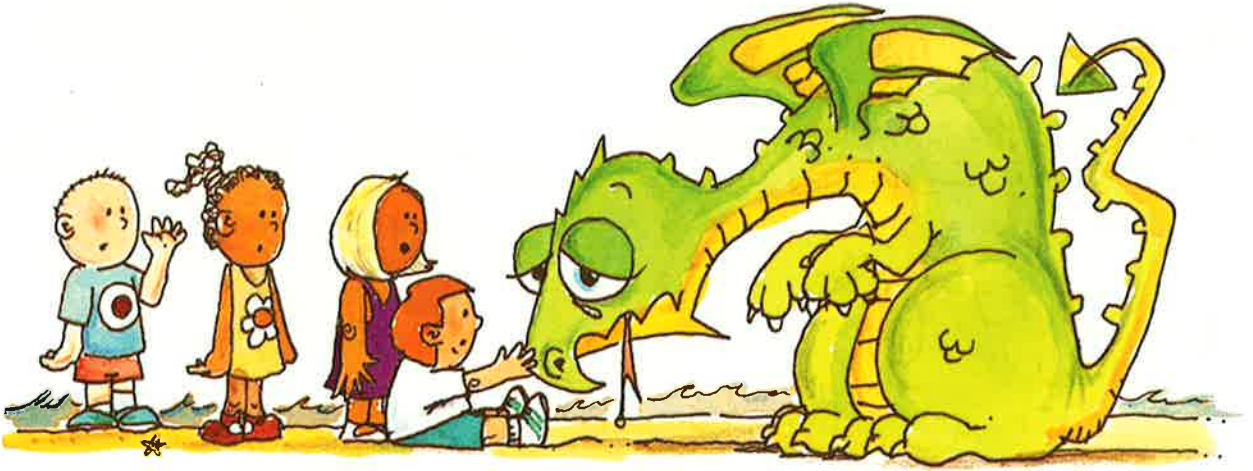
**The mouse helped the lion to escape.**

**The lion was going to eat the mouse.**

## Now try these

1. Have you ever been frightened by someone bigger than you?  
Write some sentences about what happened and how you felt.
2. Aesop's fables often have a moral. The moral of this story is:  
**Don't belittle little things.**  
Write what you think it means.

When these friends visited a beach they were in for a surprise.



"Look at this," said Mimi. "Look what I've found!"

"It's very long," said Alex.

"And it's incredibly heavy," said Roland.

"What can it be?" asked Spike.

"It's a dragon!" they all shouted.

"Let's get out of here!"

"Oh, don't go," said the dragon.

"I won't hurt you." He sounded very sad.



"What's the matter?" asked Mimi.

"It's this dreadful cold," sniffed the dragon.

"It's completely put my fire out. All my family and friends sent me away. 'Duncan,' they said, 'no one wants a dragon without fire.'"

"We want you," said Mimi, "and we'll take care of you."

"We'll think of something," agreed Alex.

John Talbot

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.

1. Mimi found a \_\_\_\_\_. (dragon, octopus)
2. The dragon was very \_\_\_\_\_. (short, long)
3. His name was \_\_\_\_\_. (Duncan, Dingwall)
4. He seemed rather \_\_\_\_\_. (happy, sad)
5. Duncan had lost his \_\_\_\_\_. (fire, hat)

## More to think about

Write a sentence to answer each question.

1. How many friends were on the beach?
2. Do you think they went to the beach to look for dragons?
3. Why were they going to run away?
4. Why had Duncan lost his fire?
5. Why did Duncan's family send him away?

## Now try these

1. What do you think happened next in the story? Write your own ending.
2. Make two lists in your book.  
**List 1:** The best things about being a dragon.  
**List 2:** The worst things about being a dragon.
3. Write about how you would have felt if you were Duncan and your family sent you away.



# Crash!

Do you remember?



1 window watching



2 aeroplane crash



3 parachute pilot



4 telephone help



5 rescued helicopter



6 reward

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences.

Choose words from the picture story to fill each gap.

1. The girls were looking out of their \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They saw an aeroplane \_\_\_\_\_ into the sea.
3. The pilot came down with his \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The girls called for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ went to rescue the pilot.
6. The pilot gave the girls a \_\_\_\_\_ for saving his life.

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to explain what is happening in each of the six pictures.
2. Look at the pictures and think about what the characters are saying. Write:
  - a) three questions the telephone operator asked when the girls called.
  - b) what the pilot said when the helicopter arrived.
  - c) what the pilot said when he gave the girls a reward.



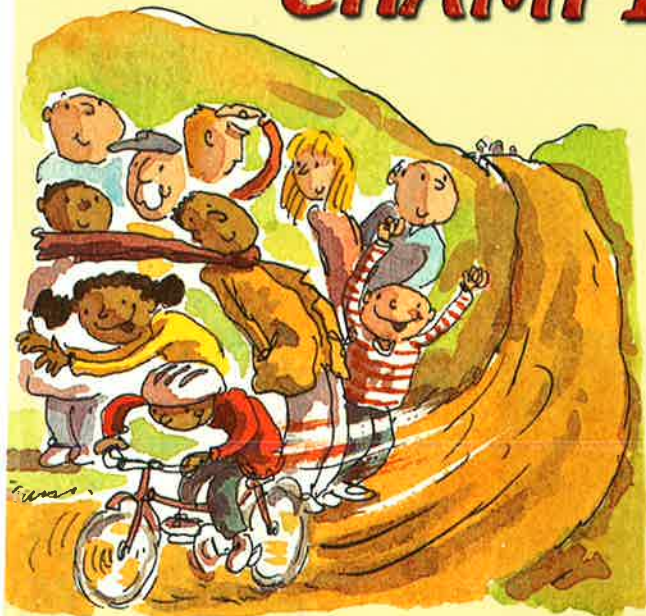
## Now try these

Draw your own picture story for one of these events.

Then add two words to describe each picture in your story.

1. an escape
2. an earthquake
3. a discovery

# ANNUAL YOUNG BIKERS' CHAMPIONSHIP



*Crossfield Farm, Westergate  
Saturday 25th October*

*Juniors (7-10 years) 10.00-12.30  
Seniors (11-14 years) 12.30-3.00*

*(Sorry - no under-7 bikers  
allowed to enter)*

*Entrance fees:  
Riders free Spectators £1.00*

*Refreshment tent*

## Do you remember?

**Copy these sentences.**

**Choose the correct ending to finish each sentence.**

1. There is going to be a  
a) bike-riding championship.      b) road safety competition.
2. It will be held on  
a) Friday 24th October.      b) Saturday 25th October.
3. Junior events are  
a) in the morning.      b) in the afternoon.
4. Riders under 7  
a) are allowed to ride.      b) are not allowed to ride.
5. The entrance fee for spectators is  
a) £1.      b) free.

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) Where are the championships to be held?
  - b) How much does it cost to enter?
  - c) If you are 9, what time are your races?
  - d) Your sister is 13. What time are her races?
  - e) Can you buy food and drinks after the races?
2. Copy these lists of words. Draw lines to join the words that have similar meanings. One has been done to help you.

annual

championship

fee

spectators

refreshments

competition

charge

once a year

things to eat and drink

audience



## Now try these

1. Write some sentences to describe how you would feel if each of these things happened.
  - a) You are given a new mountain bike as a present.
  - b) The car taking you to the championships breaks down on the way.
  - c) You win your first ever race.
  - d) You reach the final, but then come last!
  - e) Your little sister wins the cup in her event.
2. Design a poster for a running race. Think carefully about what you would need to know if you wanted to enter.

# The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark

Mother Owl was getting fed up with Plop, a young owl who was afraid of the dark.

"Go and find out more about the dark," said his mother.

"Ask that little girl down there what she thinks about it."

"What little girl?"

"That little girl sitting down there – the one with the pony-tail."

"Little girls don't have tails."

"This one does. Go on now or you'll miss her."

So Plop shut his eyes, took a deep breath, and fell off his branch. His landing was a little better than usual. He bounced three times and rolled gently towards the little girl's feet.

"Oh, a woolly ball!" cried the little girl.

"Actually, I'm a Barn Owl," said the woolly ball.

"An owl? Are you sure?" she said, putting out a grubby finger and prodding Plop's round fluffy tummy.

"Quite sure," said Plop, backing away and drawing himself up tall.

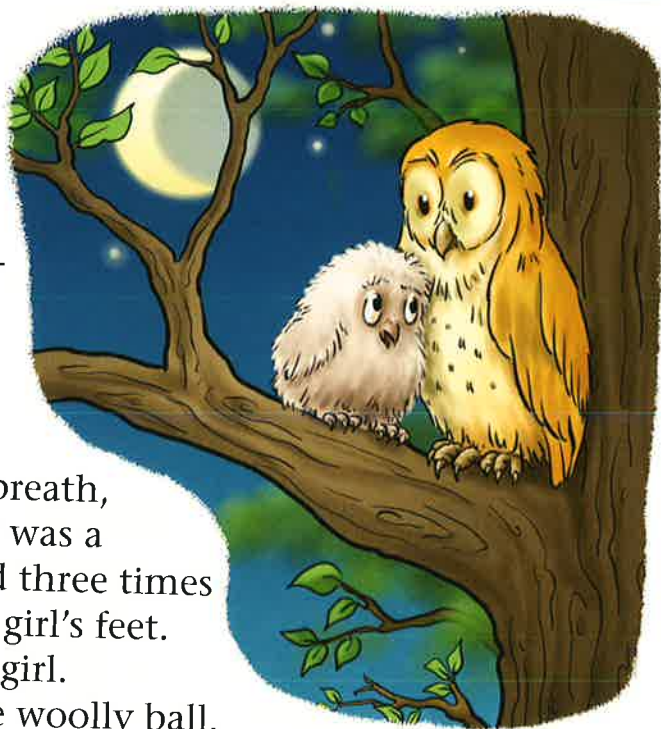
"Well, there's no need to be huffy," said the little girl.

"You bounced. You must expect to be mistaken for a ball if you go bouncing about the place. I've never met an owl before. Do you say 'Tu-wit-a-woo'?"

"No," said Plop, "that's Tawny Owls."

"Oh, you can't be a proper owl then," said the little girl. "Proper owls say 'Tu-wit-a-woo!'"

"I am a proper owl!" said Plop, getting very cross. "I am a Barn Owl, and Barn Owls go 'Eeek' like that. Anyway – you can't be a proper girl. Girls don't have tails. Squirrels have tails, rabbits have tails, mice ..."



## Do you remember?

Match these questions and answers.  
Write the answers in the correct order.

1. Where was the little girl?
2. Why did Plop think the girl had a tail?
3. Could Plop fly well?
4. What sort of owl was Plop?

**No, Plop couldn't fly very well.**

**Plop was a Barn Owl.**

**The girl's hair was in a pony-tail.**

**The little girl was below the tree.**

## More to think about

1. Which words in the story tell us that:
  - a) Plop was worried about flying?
  - b) he didn't yet have his adult feathers?
  - c) the little girl had dirty hands?
2. Write three sentences in your book about Plop. Think about his personality as well as what he looks like.
3. Why do you think some of the words in the story are in darker print?

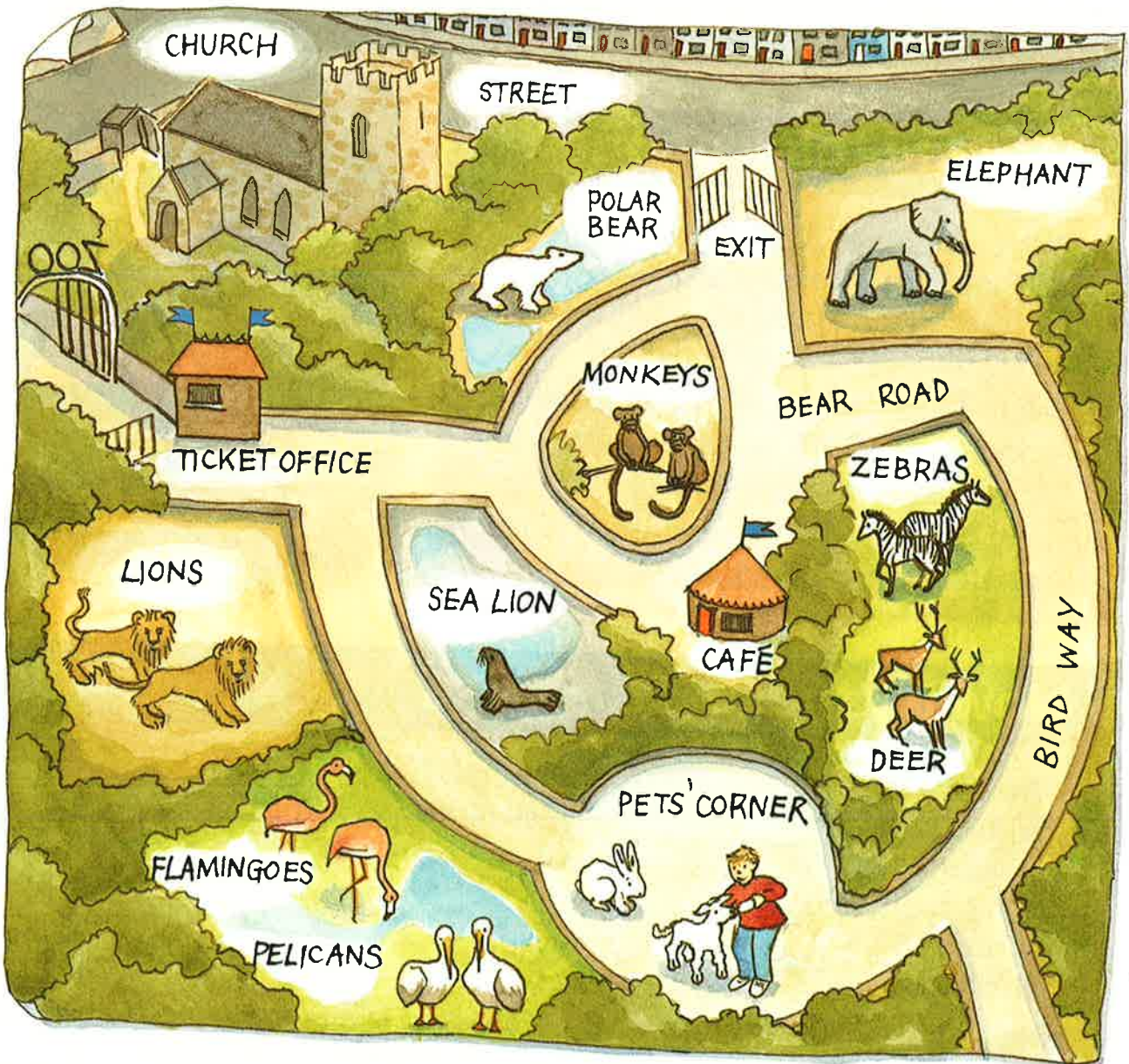


## Now try these

1. The little girl said Plop was like a "woolly ball". Write some words to describe these birds and animals.
  - a) giraffe
  - b) hippopotamus
  - c) robin
  - d) kitten
2. Have you ever been frightened of the dark, like Plop? Make a list of the things about the dark that can sometimes frighten people.

Dinesh and Indira have been taken to the zoo by their grandparents.

They were having such a good time feeding the lambs that they didn't notice that they had become lost in the crowds. Luckily Indira had a map of the zoo.



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. The children's names are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Their \_\_\_\_\_ had taken them to the zoo.
3. They were feeding the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. They didn't notice they were \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Luckily Indira had a \_\_\_\_\_.



## More to think about

Write a sentence to answer each question.  
Use the map to find the answers.

1. Where were Dinesh and Indira feeding the lambs?
2. Describe their quickest way back to the ticket office?
3. Which animals are kept closest to the ticket office?
4. What type of sea animal would they have seen as they walked back to the office?
5. Grandad left a message at the office to meet at the exit. Describe the best route from the office to the exit.
6. Which creatures did they see sharing an enclosure with the pelicans?
7. What animals were sharing with the zebras?
8. If they had gone to the exit straight from Pets' Corner, which two roads would they have walked along?

## Now try these

1. Can you remember ever being lost? Imagine you are Dinesh or Indira and you are lost in this crowded zoo on a very hot day. Write some sentences about how you are feeling and what you are thinking.
2. There is a visitor coming to your classroom. Write clear instructions that tell the visitor how to get from the school entrance to your classroom.

# The Tale of Peter Rabbit

Peter lived with his family in a sand-bank, under the roots of a big fir tree. He was always a problem for his mother, causing trouble and getting into scrapes.

“Now, my dears,” said old Mrs Rabbit one morning, “you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don’t go into Mr McGregor’s garden. Your father had an accident there; he was put into a pie by Mrs McGregor. Now run along and don’t get into mischief. I am going out.”

Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-tail went down the lane to gather blackberries. But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr McGregor’s garden and squeezed under the gate!



First he ate some lettuces and some French beans; and then he ate some radishes; and then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley. But round the end of the cucumber frame, who should he meet but Mr McGregor!



Mr McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, ‘Stop thief!’

**Beatrix Potter**

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. Mrs Rabbit told her children they must not \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-tail went to gather \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Peter got into Mr McGregor's garden by \_\_\_\_\_.
4. When Mr McGregor saw Peter he \_\_\_\_\_.

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) What had happened to Mr Rabbit?
  - b) What did Peter eat in the garden?
  - c) What was Mr McGregor doing in the garden?
  - d) Why did Mr McGregor call Peter a "thief"?
2. Copy these words from the story. Then next to each, write another word the writer could have used. One has been done to help you.
  - a) mischief     **trouble**
  - b) naughty
  - c) gather
  - d) squeezed



## Now try these

1. In your book write what Mr McGregor might have said to his wife when he went in for his tea.
2. Do you think Peter escaped from the garden? Write your own ending to this story.

Jo's family is on holiday.

They are given instructions and a map at their campsite.

## SANDY BAY HOLIDAY PARK

Welcome to Sandy Bay Holiday Park. We hope you will enjoy your stay with us.

To help you find your feet as quickly as possible, may we offer some advice.

1. Walk around the park to get your bearings.
2. Visit our supermarket to stock up with provisions.
3. Drop in to the information centre to pick up some leaflets about local attractions.

We don't have many rules, but those we do have are to ensure you and other guests enjoy a relaxed holiday, away from the hurly-burly of everyday life!

- Rule 1:** Please return to the park no later than 11.30 pm.
- Rule 2:** No noise outside your caravan or tent after midnight.
- Rule 3:** No loud music at any time.
- Rule 4:** Swimming pool not to be used by unaccompanied children under 7 years at any time.
- Rule 5:** No swimming in the pool after 6 pm.



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. Jo's family went to \_\_\_\_\_ for their holiday.
2. When they arrived they were given \_\_\_\_\_ instructions and five \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ were available in the information centre.
4. Nobody was allowed in the swimming pool after \_\_\_\_\_.



## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question. You might need to use a ruler.
  - a) How far is it to the beach?
  - b) What is the nearest town?
  - c) How far is it to the Motor Sports theme park?
  - d) What might be the best thing for the family to do when it rains?
2. What does each of these phrases mean?
  - a) help you find your feet
  - b) to stock up with provisions
  - c) get your bearings
  - d) away from the hurly-burly of everyday life

## Now try these

1. Explain why the holiday park thinks each rule will make the holiday more relaxed for all the guests.
2. Pretend you are Jo. Write a postcard to a friend telling him or her what you are doing on holiday.



Asleep he wheezes at his ease.  
He only wakes to scratch his fleas.

He hogs the fire, he bakes his head  
As if he were a loaf of bread.

He's just a sack of snoring dog.  
You lug him like a log.

You can roll him with your foot,  
He'll stay snoring where he's put.

I take him out for exercise,  
He rolls in cowclap up to his eyes.

He will not race, he will not romp,  
He saves his strength for gobble and chomp.

He'll work as hard as you could wish  
Emptying his dinner dish,

Then flops flat, and digs down deep,  
Like a miner, into sleep.

Ted Hughes



## Do you remember?

**Copy these sentences. Choose the correct word to fill each gap.**

1. Roger only wakes to scratch his \_\_\_\_\_. (tummy, fleas)
2. He likes sleeping by the \_\_\_\_\_. (fire, radiator)
3. Roger \_\_\_\_\_ a lot. (barks, snores)
4. He likes eating and \_\_\_\_\_ best. (sleeping, running)
5. The only hard work he does is \_\_\_\_\_. (eating, digging)

## More to think about

1. The poet chooses words to make an interesting word picture. Copy these lists and draw lines to the words with similar meanings. One has been done to help you.

### poet's words

wheezes  
bakes  
lug him  
romp  
gobble and chomp  
flops flat

### similar words

run and jump about  
breathes noisily  
eat  
lies down  
carry him  
warms

2. Find a word in the poem that rhymes with:

a) head                      b) log                      c) put                      d) eyes  
e) romp                      f) dish                      g) fleas                      h) deep.

## Now try these

1. Imagine Roger is your dog. Describe what happened when you tried to take him to the shops with you.
2. If you could choose an animal as a pet, what would you choose? Write three reasons for your choice.
3. Write a nonsense verse using rhyming words. One has been done to help you. Try to think of four other animals.



If I met a crocodile  
I'd run a mile.

If I met a \_\_\_\_\_  
I'd \_\_\_\_\_.



'Seaview'  
Cliff Lane,  
Sandy Bay,  
SY13 7AB

Saturday 6th May

Dear Annie, Tim and Jenny,

We moved into our new house just three days ago. I think we are going to like it, even though it is strange not living in the same town as you any more. From our front windows we can see the sea, and at the back we have lovely views of the hills.

The removal truck broke down so it took us six hours to get here, when it should have only taken about two hours!

Grandad and I thought you might like to come and stay for a few days in the school holidays. If Mum and Dad can't come, then we'll meet you at the station.

With much love,

Gran xxx



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. Gran and Grandad have moved to a town called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They moved \_\_\_\_\_ days ago.
3. From the front windows they can see the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The removal truck took \_\_\_\_\_ hours to get to Sandy Bay.

## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) On which day of the week did Gran and Grandad move into their new house?
  - b) What will they miss most living in Sandy Bay?
  - c) What is Jenny's brother's name?
  - d) How might the children get to Sandy Bay if their parents are at work?
2. These sentences are not correct.  
Write each sentence correctly.
  - a) Gran enjoys watching the ships from the back window of her house.
  - b) The hills are in front of their new house.
  - c) It took six hours to mend the removal truck.
  - d) Gran and Grandad will meet the children at the bus stop.

## Now try these

1. Describe how you imagine Gran and Grandad's new house.  
Write a few sentences about what it looks like and where it is.
2. Write the reasons why the children might like to visit their grandparents in the school holidays.
3. Write a letter back to Gran to tell her your news and explain why you would love to come and visit her house.

The Harris family had a dog. Nothing unusual about that you might think – except that Hot Dog Harris was the smallest dog in the world!

Hot Dog was a Yorkshire terrier. He lived in Barnsley with Mr and Mrs Harris and their son Harold and their daughter Hattie and their grandad, old Mr Harris.

Old Mr Harris didn't think much of Hot Dog.

"You call that a dog!" he said.

"It looks like a wig on legs."

Hot Dog was so small everyone had to be very careful around him.

Old Mr Harris had to be very careful where he sat down.

Mrs Harris had to be careful when she hoovered the carpet.

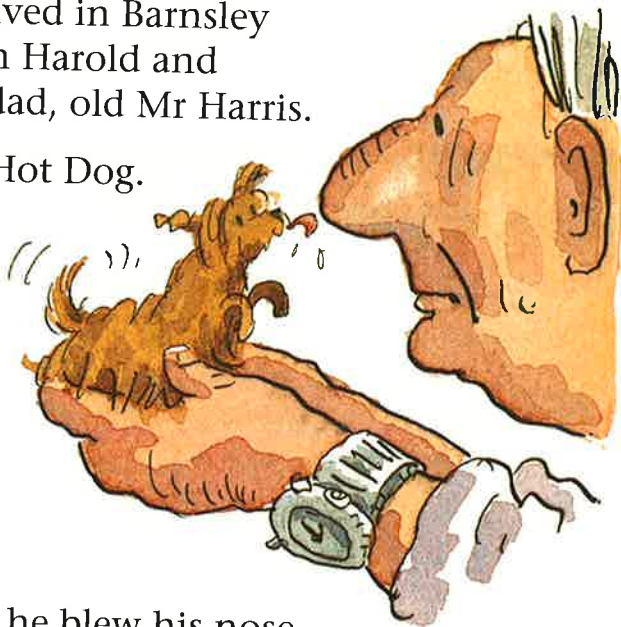
Mr Harris had to be careful whenever he blew his nose.

Harold had to be careful whenever he put on his football boots.

Hattie had to be careful to look before she jumped into bed.

They all had to be careful not to let Hot Dog out of the house.

He was so small anything might happen!



Rose Impey

## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

- Hot Dog was a Yorkshire \_\_\_\_\_.
- He lived with the \_\_\_\_\_ family.
- They all lived in a town called \_\_\_\_\_.
- The children were called \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Grandad said Hot Dog looked like a \_\_\_\_\_ on legs.



## More to think about

- One word in each of these sentences is not correct. Write each sentence correctly.
  - Harold's brother was called Hattie.
  - Hot Dog was the longest dog in the world.
  - Their grandad loved the little creature.
- Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - Why do you think the dog was called "Hot Dog"?
  - Why did old Mr Harris call him "a wig on legs"?
  - Why did the family want to keep Hot Dog in the house?



## Now try these

- Copy these boxes neatly into your book. Write two ideas in each box. One has been done to help you.

Good things about being small	Good things about being big
My owners can take me about easily.	
Bad things about being small	Bad things about being big

- One day Hot Dog managed to escape from the house. Describe one of the adventures he might have had.

Many **frogs** have long tongues. They can shoot them out extremely quickly to catch their food, usually an insect. Then they bring their tongue – and the insect – back into their mouth.

**Vultures** don't kill animals. They circle around waiting for an animal to die, or be killed. Then they swoop down to feed.

Many insects eat plants, but **Venus fly traps** are plants that attack insects! They trap the insect in their leaves, which close together until the insect dies.

Some plants live off other plants.

They feed off the other plant without killing it.

We call these parasites. **Mistletoe**, which grows in the branches of trees, is one of these.

**Mosquitoes** and some other small creatures, like **fleas**, are also parasites. They live on other animals (including people sometimes!) by making tiny holes through the skin and sucking blood.



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Fill each gap.

1. Some frogs have long \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Vultures wait for animals to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Venus fly traps catch \_\_\_\_\_ in their leaves.
4. Mistletoe grows in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Mosquitoes and fleas are both called \_\_\_\_\_.

## More to think about

Write a sentence to answer each question.

1. Why are vultures good for the environment?
2. Why would it be bad for the parasite if it killed the plant or animal it lives on?
3. Why do you think mistletoe is becoming a rare plant in many places?
4. If you squash a mosquito it sometimes leaves a red mark. Why?

## Now try these

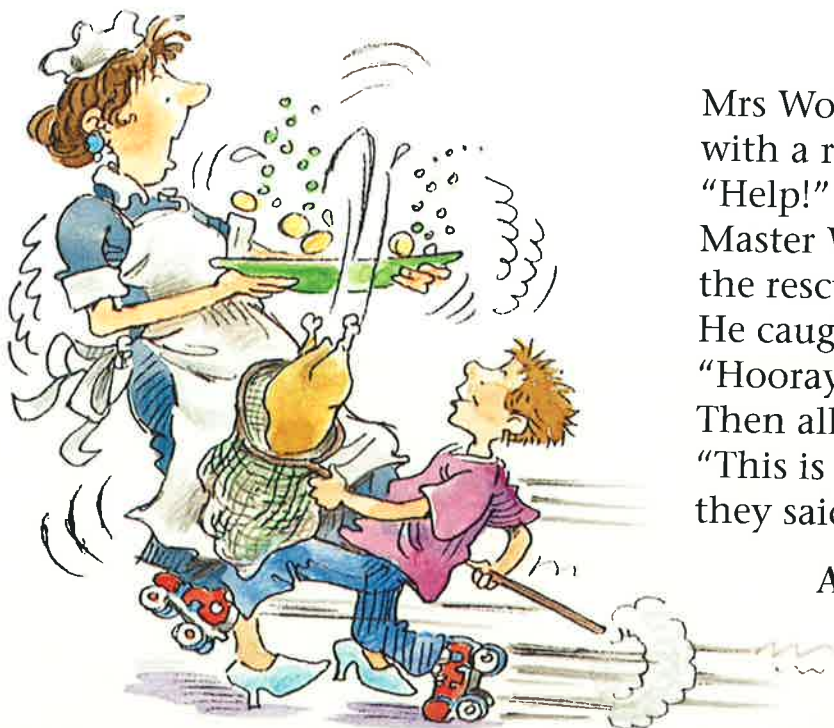
1. Imagine that you are a creature that has just arrived from outer space. You have never seen humans before. Write a report about how these strange human creatures feed.
2. Imagine that you are either a frog or a vulture. Write about how you feel as you watch and wait for your food.



# Mrs Wobble the Waitress

Mrs Wobble, who keeps wobbling and dropping food, has been given the sack from the café where she worked. To make her feel better her family have opened a café in their own house.

The first customers arrived.  
"Oh dear," said Mrs Wobble.  
"What if I...?"  
Mrs Wobble wobbled with  
a bowl of soup.  
"Help!" said the customer.  
Miss Wobble skated to  
the rescue.  
She caught the soup in  
another bowl.  
"That's clever!" the customer said.



Mrs Wobble wobbled  
with a roast chicken.  
"Help!" said the customer.  
Master Wobble skated to  
the rescue.  
He caught the chicken in a net.  
"Hooray!" the customer said.  
Then all the customers cheered.  
"This is more fun than a circus!"  
they said.

Allan and Janet Ahlberg

## Do you remember?

Here are the answers to four questions about the story.  
Write the question for each one. One has been done to help you.

1. Mrs Wobble keeps dropping the food she is serving.

*What does Mrs Wobble keep dropping?*

2. She is very worried.
3. The Wobble children catch the food.
4. The customers think it is fun.

## More to think about

1. Choose words from each column to make sentences about the story.

### Who?

Mrs Wobble  
Master Wobble  
Miss Wobble

### Did what?

skated to the rescue  
was very upset  
skated to the rescue

### When?

when she lost her job.  
to catch the soup.  
to catch the chicken.

2. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) Why did the customers cheer?
  - b) Why did the customers think their meal was "more fun than a circus"?

## Now try these

1. Write a summary of the story of Mrs Wobble the Waitress in your own words. Your summary should be no more than 40 words.
2. Write a few sentences to tell how you think the story might finish. Try to make it interesting or funny.
3. Write a set of rules to make sure your kitchen at home is a safe place.



# The Golly Sisters Go West



The Golly Sisters sat in their wagon. They were going west.  
“Go,” May-May said to the horse.  
The horse did not go.

“This makes me mad,” May-May said.  
“Our wagon is ready. Our songs and dances are ready.  
And the horse will not go.”

“It makes me mad too,” said Rose.  
“Something is wrong with this horse.”

Rose got down from the wagon. May-May got down too.  
They walked around the horse.

“Do you see anything wrong?” May-May asked.

“No, but something is wrong,” said Rose.

“When we say, ‘Go,’ the horse does not go.”

“And if the horse does not go, we do not go,” said May-May.

Suddenly, Rose said, "Sister! I just remembered something. There is a horse word for 'go'."  
"A horse word?" said May-May.  
"What is it?"  
"Giddy-up!" Rose said.

The horse went.

Betsy Byars



## Do you remember?

Copy this paragraph. Fill each gap.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_, the two Golly sisters, couldn't make their  
\_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ go. The \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ was loaded, and they had practised  
their \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_. The sisters got very \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_,  
but the horse still wouldn't go! They walked around the \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_,  
but it still wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_. Then Rose remembered you need  
to say \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ to tell a horse to go. As soon as they said this  
the horse \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_.

## More to think about

1. One word in each of these sentences is not correct. Write each sentence correctly.
  - a) May-May told the horse to stop.
  - b) May-May got down from the wagon first.
  - c) Rose couldn't tell that something was wrong.
  - d) Rose remembered a house word.
2. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) In which country do you think the Golly sisters lived?
  - b) Where were the Golly sisters going?
  - c) What work were they going to do when they got there?
  - d) How do you know they didn't drive wagons very often?
  - e) Was the horse well trained or badly trained?
  - f) Were they right to get cross with the horse?
  - g) Did getting cross with the horse make it go?
  - h) How did they make it go in the end?

## Now try these

1. Write a short version of the story so far, using no more than three sentences.
2. What do you think the Golly sisters have learned from their experience with the horse?
3. Write some sentences to tell how you think the story of the Golly sisters might have ended.
4. Imagine you really wanted to go somewhere, but for some reason you weren't able to get there. Write some sentences about what happened and how you felt.