

Story Central

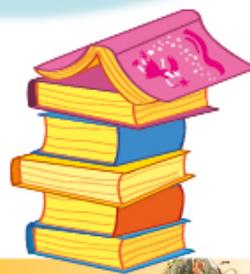
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**Viv Lambert
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Story Central Reader 2



Contents

Chapter 1 Jack and the Beanstalk 2



Chapter 2 Hilltop School for Young Detectives 6



Chapter 3 The Emperor's New Clothes 10



Chapter 4 A New Pet For Trixie 13



Chapter 5 The Animal Olympics 16



Chapter 6 I'm Late, Late, Late! 20



Chapter 7 The Secret Life of Shelly the Chef 22



Chapter 8 The Kangaroo's Pouch 25



Chapter 9 The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse 29



Jack and the Beanstalk



1 Jack: Mom, I'm hungry.
Mom: Oh, Jack. I'm sorry.



2 Mom: Here. Go to the market.



3 Jack: Please buy my cow.
Woman: No.
Your cow is small and thin.



4 Man: Can I have your cow?
These are for you.
Jack: Magic beans. Thank you.



5 Mom: Jack, you are silly. Now we don't have any money and we don't have a cow.



6 The next day ...
Jack: Look! A beanstalk ...

A boy named Jack is climbing a massive green beanstalk that grows from a giant's foot. In the background, a village is visible on a patch of ground surrounded by clouds. Jack is wearing a red shirt and brown pants, and he has a determined expression.

7 Jack: I can climb it.
Mom: Jack, it's tall. Be careful.

8 Jack: Look at that big castle.

A woman with long, wavy red hair and a pink dress stands in a room. She is holding a small red hat. A boy in a red shirt and brown pants is standing in front of her, looking up at her. The room has a large window with a view of a landscape.

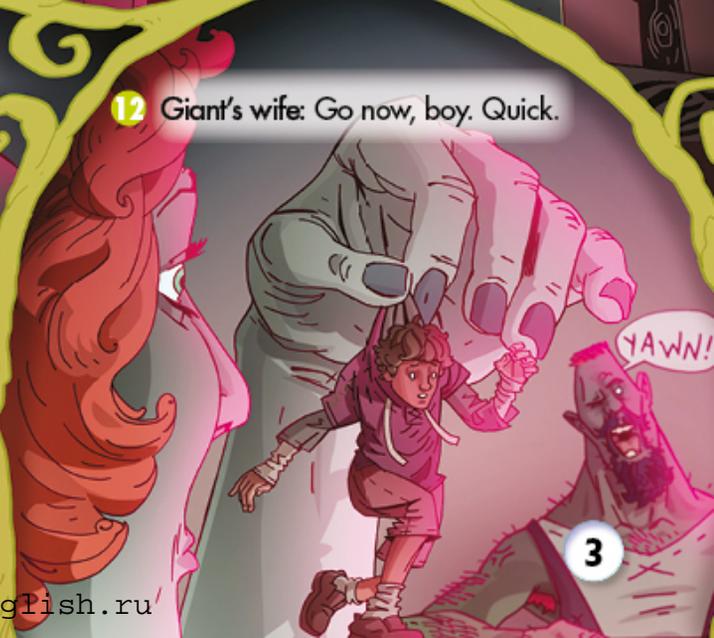
9 Jack: It's a giant!
Giant's wife: Shh. Come in. Here, this is for you.
Jack: Thank you. You're kind.

A boy in a red shirt and brown pants is sitting on a large, ornate wooden chair. The chair is part of a giant's furniture. The boy is looking towards the camera with a slightly nervous expression.

10 Jack: This chair is so big. What's that noise?

A giant with a large, hairy body and a red beard is lying on a bed, sleeping. He is wearing a red shirt and brown pants. A boy in a red shirt and brown pants is sitting on the edge of the bed, looking at the giant.

11 Jack: Help! Oh, good, he's asleep.

A woman with long, wavy red hair and a pink dress is running. She is looking back over her shoulder with a worried expression. A boy in a red shirt and brown pants is running alongside her. A giant's hand is visible in the background, holding a small object.

12 Giant's wife: Go now, boy. Quick.



13 Giant: Who's that boy?
Giant's wife: Which boy? What does he look like?



14 Giant: He's short. He has brown hair. He wants my gold!
Giant's wife: There isn't a boy. Here, eat your breakfast.

15 The next day ...



Where is the gold?



16 Jack: Look, a beautiful goose. And gold eggs. I'm rich!



17 Jack: Shh!



18 Jack: Oh, no. Now he's awake.
Giant: That's my goose. Come back!



19 Jack: Mom, there's a giant up the beanstalk.
Mom: What does he look like?
Jack: He's very tall. He has a long black beard. He's ugly ... and he's angry! Help!

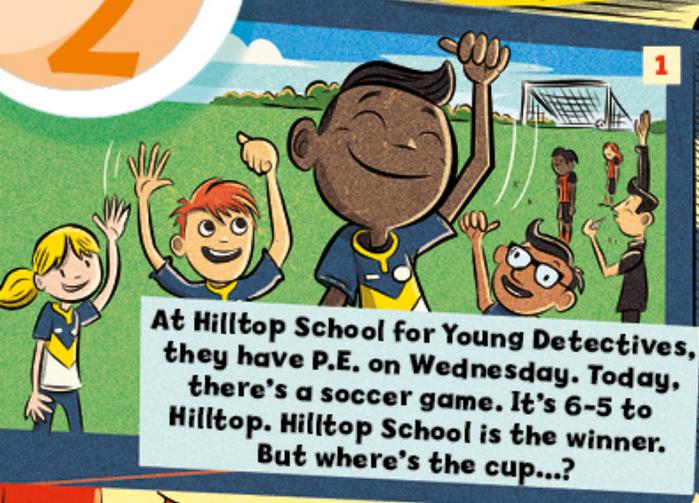
20 Jack: Stop him – quick!
Mom: Here!

21 Giant: Aargh! Help!



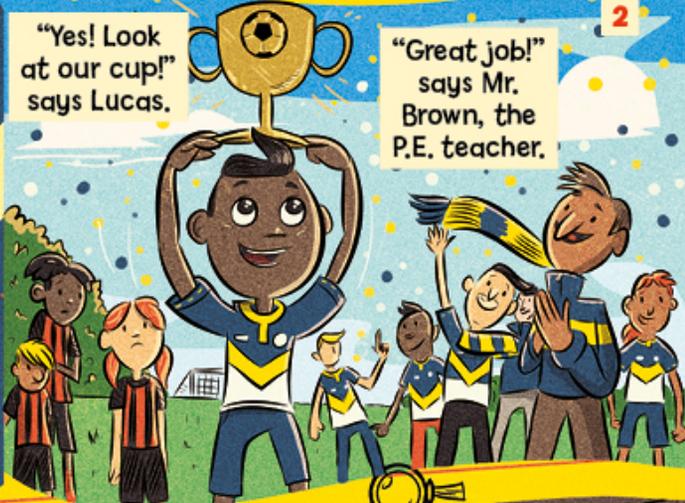
22 Jack: Mom, this is for you.
Mom: A gold egg! Thank you.
Jack: Now we are rich and happy.

Hilltop School for Young Detectives



1

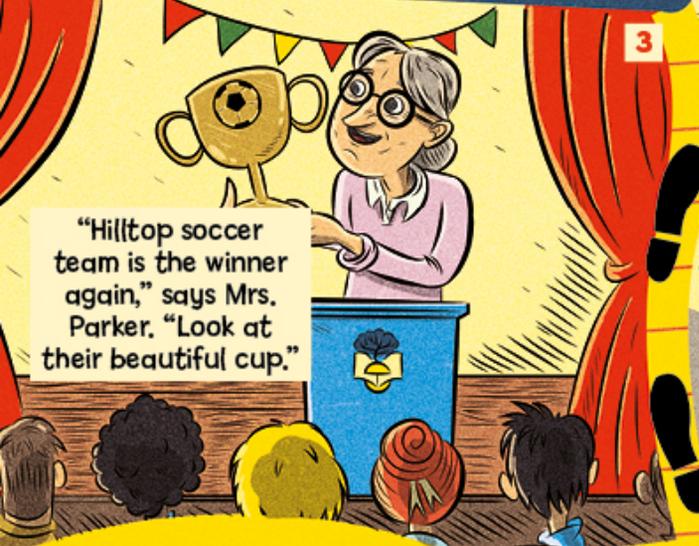
At Hilltop School for Young Detectives, they have P.E. on Wednesday. Today, there's a soccer game. It's 6-5 to Hilltop. Hilltop School is the winner. But where's the cup...?



2

"Yes! Look at our cup!" says Lucas.

"Great job!" says Mr. Brown, the P.E. teacher.



3

"Hilltop soccer team is the winner again," says Mrs. Parker. "Look at their beautiful cup."



4

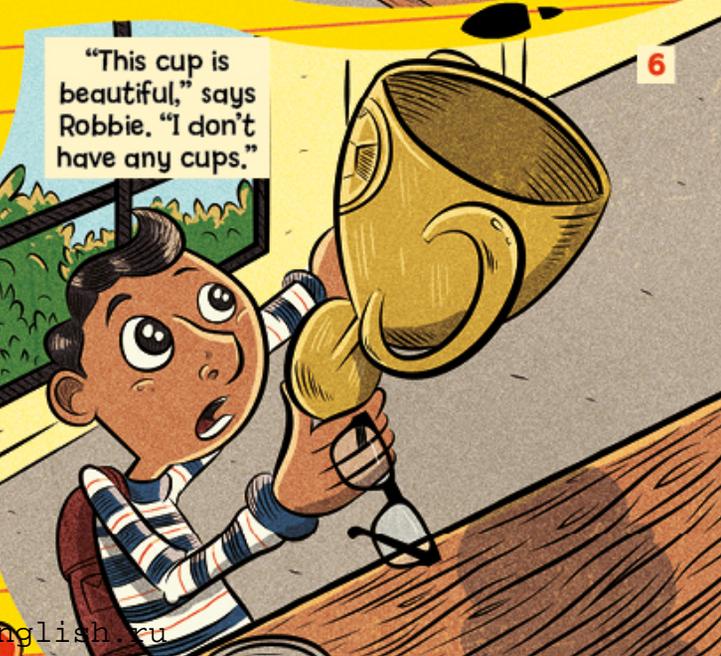
The cup is on a shelf in the school.



5

"Look!" says Josie. "I'm the winner!"

"Don't touch the cup, Josie," says Robbie.



6

"This cup is beautiful," says Robbie. "I don't have any cups."

7

On Friday afternoon, the cup isn't there.

8

"Um, where's the cup?" asks Lucas. "It isn't on the shelf."

"Hm. Nice cup," says Perkins, the cleaner.

"Don't worry," says his friend Sam. "I like a mystery."

9

"Look! A clue! Whose sweater is that?" asks Sam.

"Look! Josie Phillips. It's her sweater," says Lucas.

10

"And look! Whose glasses are these?" asks Sam.

"They're Robbie's," says Lucas.

11

"Whose footprints are these?" asks Sam.

12



7

Later ... "They aren't my footprints," says Josie.



13

"They aren't my footprints," says Robbie.

14



"Perkins, the cleaner!" says Lucas.

15



"No," says Sam. "The footprints are too small."

"Let's tell Mrs. Parker," says Lucas.

16



"Where is she?" asks Lucas. "She isn't here. Her shoes are here, but her jacket isn't."

17



"Wait!" says Sam. "Look! They're Mrs. Parker's footprints!" says Sam.

"... And there's Mrs. Parker," says Sam. "Quick! Let's follow her," says Lucas.

18



Jewelers.

19

20

"Stop! Mrs. Parker!
Where's our soccer cup?"

"It's here. Look!"
says Mrs.
Parker.

21

"How do you
spell Hilltop?"
asks the jeweler.

"H-i-l-l-t-o-p,"
says Mrs. Parker.

"Here you
go," says
the jeweler.

23

"Oh! Sorry,
Mrs. Parker,"
say Lucas
and Sam.

"Good detective
work, boys!"
says Mrs. Parker.

22



9

The Emperor's New Clothes



1

"What's the weather like?" asks the emperor.

"Hot and sunny," says his servant.



"These clothes are old," says the emperor. "I'd like a new suit."

The dressmakers are in the castle. "Look at this beautiful cloth," they say. "Where is the cloth?" asks the emperor. "It's here," say the dressmakers. "Silly people can't see the cloth. Clever people can."

2

3



"Here's your money," says the emperor. "Thank you," say the dressmakers.

"I can't see the cloth, but I'm not silly," thinks the emperor. "The cloth is beautiful," he says.

"Yes," say the dressmakers. "And it's very expensive."

"Arms?" "80 centimeters."
"Legs?" "76 centimeters."
"Body?" "Oh! 99 centimeters!"

4



"Where's the suit?" asks the servant.
"The pants are here," say the dressmakers,
"and the jacket is here. Silly people can't see the
suit. Clever people can."

5



"Oh, no!" thinks the servant.
"I can't see the suit, but I am not silly."
"The suit is beautiful," he says.

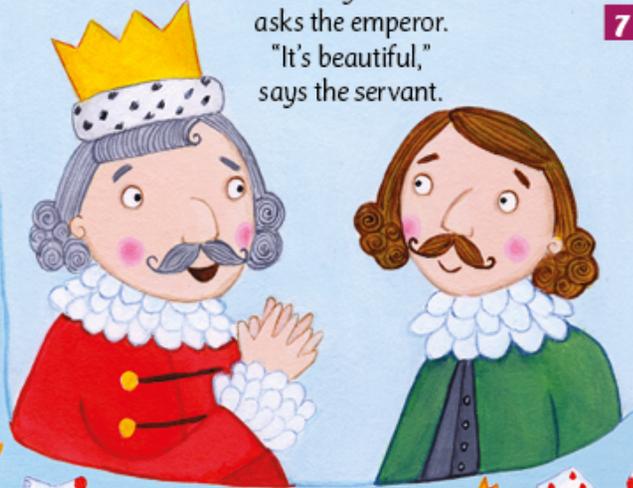
"Here's your
money," says
the servant.

6



"What does my suit look like?"
asks the emperor.
"It's beautiful,"
says the servant.

7



"Where's my suit?"
asks the emperor.
"Here it is," say the
dressmakers.
"It's beautiful," he says.

8



11



9
"Here's your money," says the emperor.



10
"Do you like your new suit?" asks the servant.
"Yes, I do," says the emperor.
"I'm a bit cold, but I like it."



11
The emperor and his servants are in the street. He is wearing his crown and he's wearing his new suit ... Or is he?

"The emperor's suit is beautiful," say the people. "Only silly people can't see it."
"Yes, it's beautiful," they all say.



12
"What's the emperor wearing?" asks a young boy.
"He's wearing a new suit," says his mom.

"He isn't wearing a suit," shouts the boy.
"Ha-ha-ha!"
"It's true," say the people.
"Ha-ha-ha!"



12
"Oh, no!" say the servants. "We are very silly."

13
"Oh, no!" says the emperor. His face is red. "I am very silly. Where are those dressmakers?"



14
"They aren't here," says the young boy. "The dressmakers are clever. You are all silly!"



A NEW PET FOR TRIXIE

Chapter

4

Can I have a dog, please, Dad?

No, Trixie, you can't!

SLAM

It's not fair!

Later ...

What are you do-

Trixie is walking up and down the hallway.

It's 8 o'clock. Is it ready yet?

I'm making something for you.

No! Go away.

It's raining. It's dark outside. There's thunder and lightning. It's 9 o'clock.

OK, it's ready! Come and look.

What is it?

Um, this is your new pet.

It isn't a dog. It isn't a cat or a rabbit.

His name is ... Stitch! He's sleeping now.

The next day ...

7

Stitch is eating again. He's eating ice cream now.

8

He's hungry. Look, he's eating the pizza.



Trixie is playing in the yard with Stitch. Stitch is jumping and barking.

9



Stitch is big now.

It's 1 o'clock. It's lunch time.

10

Trixie is sitting on the sofa. She's watching TV.

11

Look! Stitch is eating pasta now.



Hm. Stitch is very big. He has big teeth.

14

Argh! He's eating the table now!

Oh! Are you hungry,

12

Now Stitch is VERY big. He's sleeping on the floor in Trixie's bedroom.

13

The Professor is working again.

What are you doing?

I'm making a drink for Stitch.

14

Here Stitch, drink

15

Aww! He's very small now.

16

Aww, look. He's eating the table!

17

15

THE ANIMAL OLYMPICS

1

Here, at the swimming pool, there are penguins and dolphins. They're very good at swimming.

2



It's a great day here at the Animal Olympics. You can watch all your favorite sports.

Let's look at the stadium. The giraffes are playing basketball against the kangaroos.

3



The giraffes are tall, but the kangaroos are good at jumping!

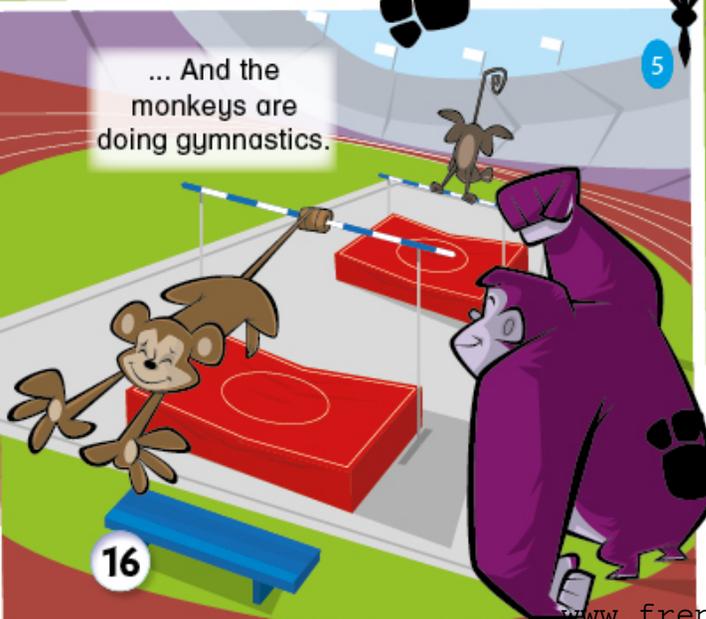
In the big hall, the crocodiles are playing ping-pong against the pandas. The pandas are winning.

4



... And the monkeys are doing gymnastics.

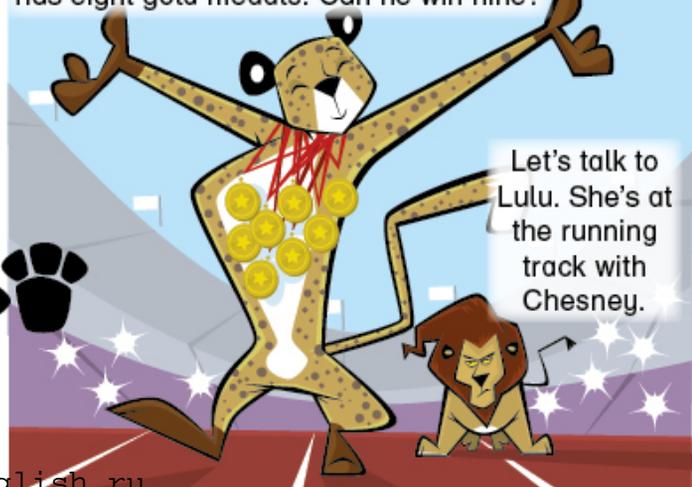
5



16

And the fantastic Chesney Cheetah is running in the 100 meters race. Chesney has eight gold medals. Can he win nine?

6



Let's talk to Lulu. She's at the running track with Chesney.

Hello, Chesney Cheetah.
How are you today?

I'm great,
thank you.

7

What's your
message for your
fans, Chesney?

I love you all!

8

Thank you Chesney, and good luck.

And they're off! They're
running really fast.

9

Chesney is winning!
The lion is second,
and who's third?
It's the ostrich.

10

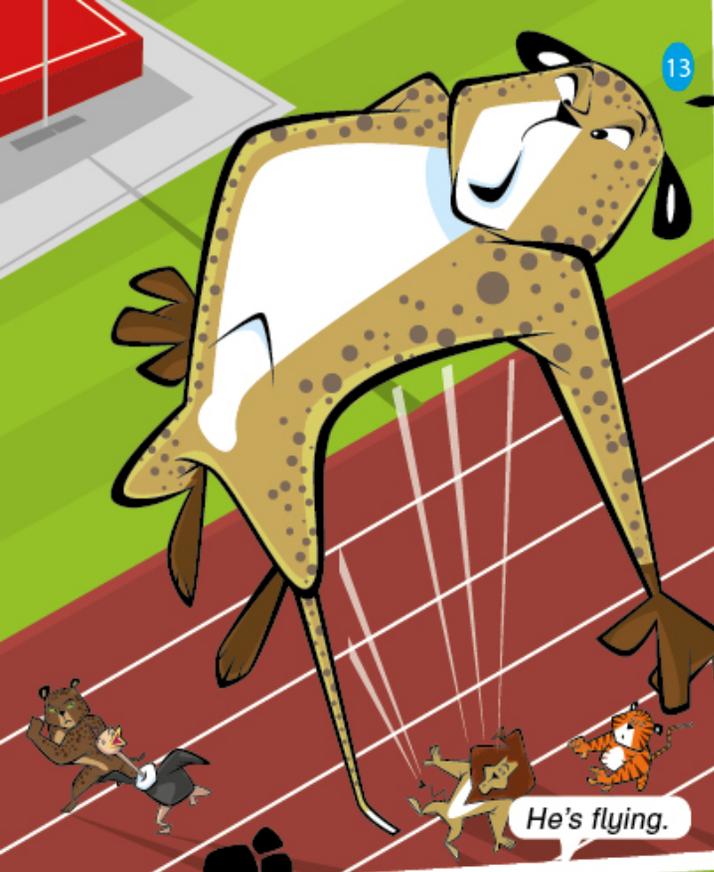
But wait.

11

What's Chesney doing?

12

17



He's flying.

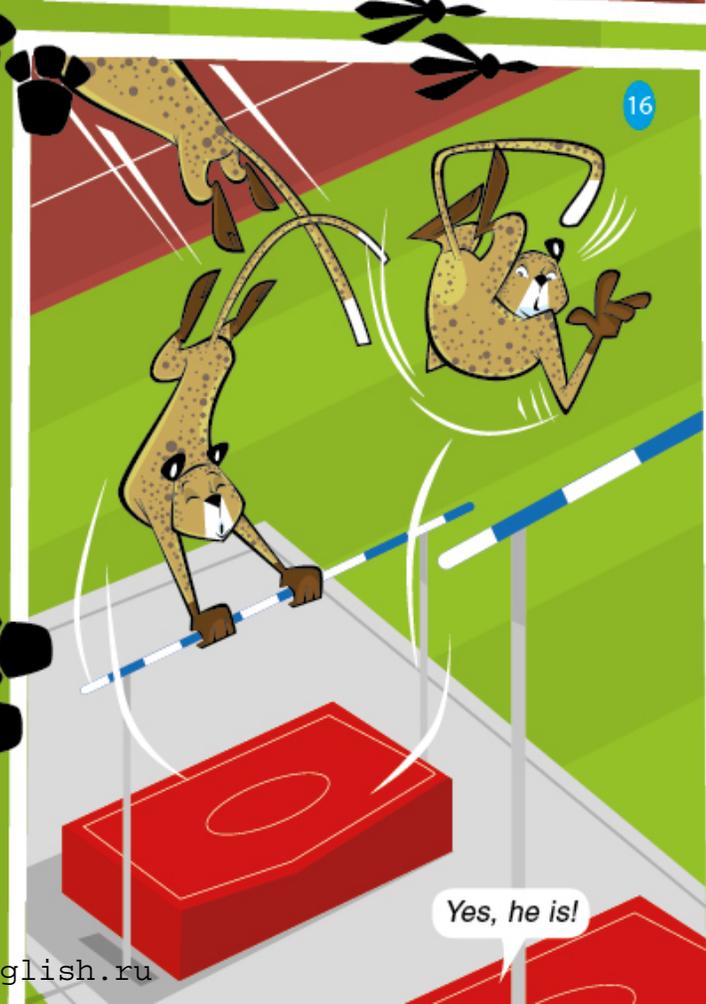


Watch out, monkeys!



What's he doing?
Is he doing
gymnastics?

18



Yes, he is!



Hooray!

17



CRASH!

18

Back at the running track, the tiger, the leopard and the ostrich are running to the finish line...



19

And it's a gold medal for the ostrich, a silver for the leopard, and a bronze for the tiger.



Thank you. I AM the champion!

20

But look! What's this? Chesney has a gold medal for gymnastics. That's nine gold medals. Great job, Chesney.

19

I'm Late, Late, Late!



1

I get up every morning
at a quarter to eight.
I go to the bathroom
to wash my face.



2

Knock, knock, knock! Who's in there?
Can I use the bathroom and comb my hair?



3

"It's me!" says Papa. "Can you wait?"
"No, I can't, Papa. I'm late, late, late."



4

I open my curtains. It's a hot, hot day.
I make my bed and I wait, wait, wait.



5

I go to the bathroom. It's eight
o'clock. Who's in there? Knock,
knock, knock!



6

"It's me," says
Jay-Jay. "Can
you wait?"
"No, I can't,
Jay-Jay. I'm late,
late, late."



7

I go to my bedroom, pack my bag for school. I get dressed and I put on my shoes.



8

I go to the bathroom.
It's a quarter after eight.
I knock on the door and
I wait, wait, wait.



9

Knock, knock, knock!
Who's in there?
I want to wash my face
and comb my hair.



10

"It's me," says Gran-Gran. "Can you wait?"
"No, I can't, Gran-Gran. I'm late, late, late."



11

I go to the kitchen
and I drink my juice.
I eat my breakfast
with Aunt Sue-Sue.

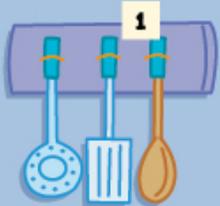


12

"Comb your hair, Sonny.
Wash your face.
It's eight thirty.
You're late, late, late!"

21

The Secret Life of Shelly the Chef



This is Shelly. She's a chef. She works at Antonio's Pizza Restaurant in town. Every day, she cooks pizza. She washes the dishes. She cleans the kitchen.



Hi. Sorry I'm late.

You're always late. Why?

I'm tired. I go to bed late every night.



What are you watching?

We're watching the news. Look. There's a superhero in town.



There's a mystery superhero in town. She wears a black cape and a mask. She rescues animals ...

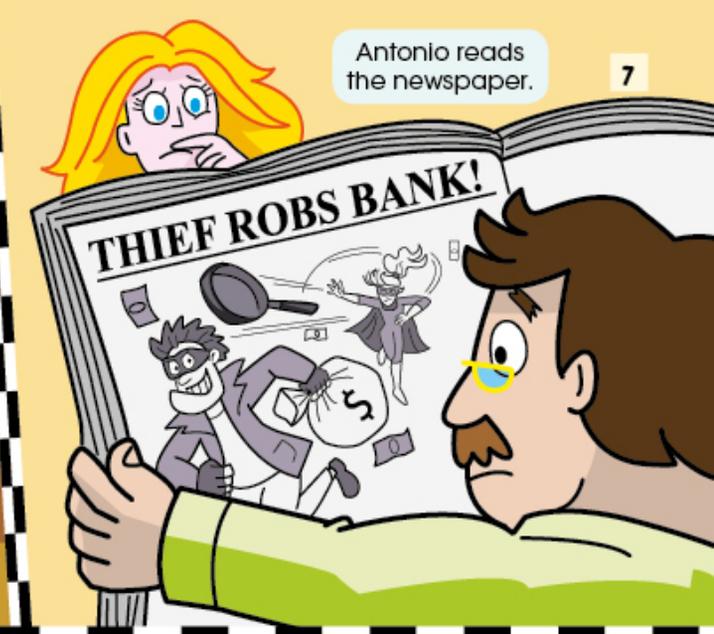


Wow! She's good at climbing!



She puts out fires.







The Kangaroo's Pouch

Chapter

8

One evening, Mrs. Kangaroo and her baby meet an old wombat.



1

"I'm an old wombat. My fur is gray. I can't see very well," says Wombat. "I'm very hungry." "Oh, poor Mr. Wombat," says Kangaroo. "Let me help you. Do wombats eat grass?"

2

"Yes, we do. We don't eat meat," says Wombat.



"Hold my tail, Mr. Wombat. Come with me," says Kangaroo.

3



"Eat this grass." "It's delicious, Mrs. Kangaroo. Thank you." "You're welcome."

4



"I'm very thirsty, too," says Wombat. "What do wombats drink?" asks Kangaroo. "We drink water."

25

"Wait here, Joey."
"Hold my tail, Mr. Wombat," says
Kangaroo, "Come with me."

5

"This water is delicious. Drink it."
"Thank you, Mrs. Kangaroo. You
are very nice," says Wombat.

6



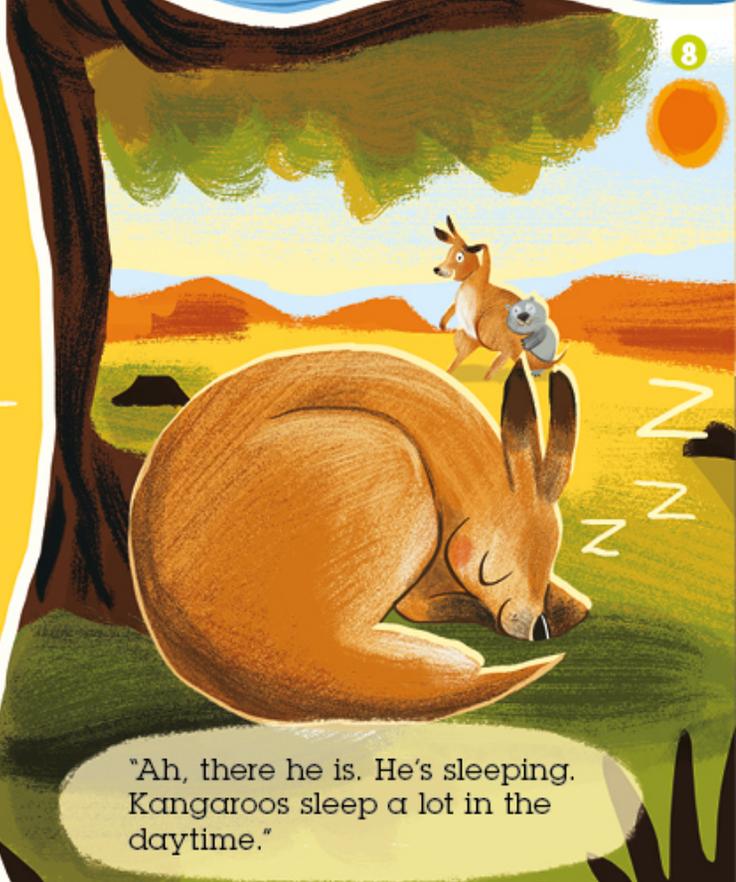
7

"Oh, no!
Where's Joey?"

GASP!

26

8

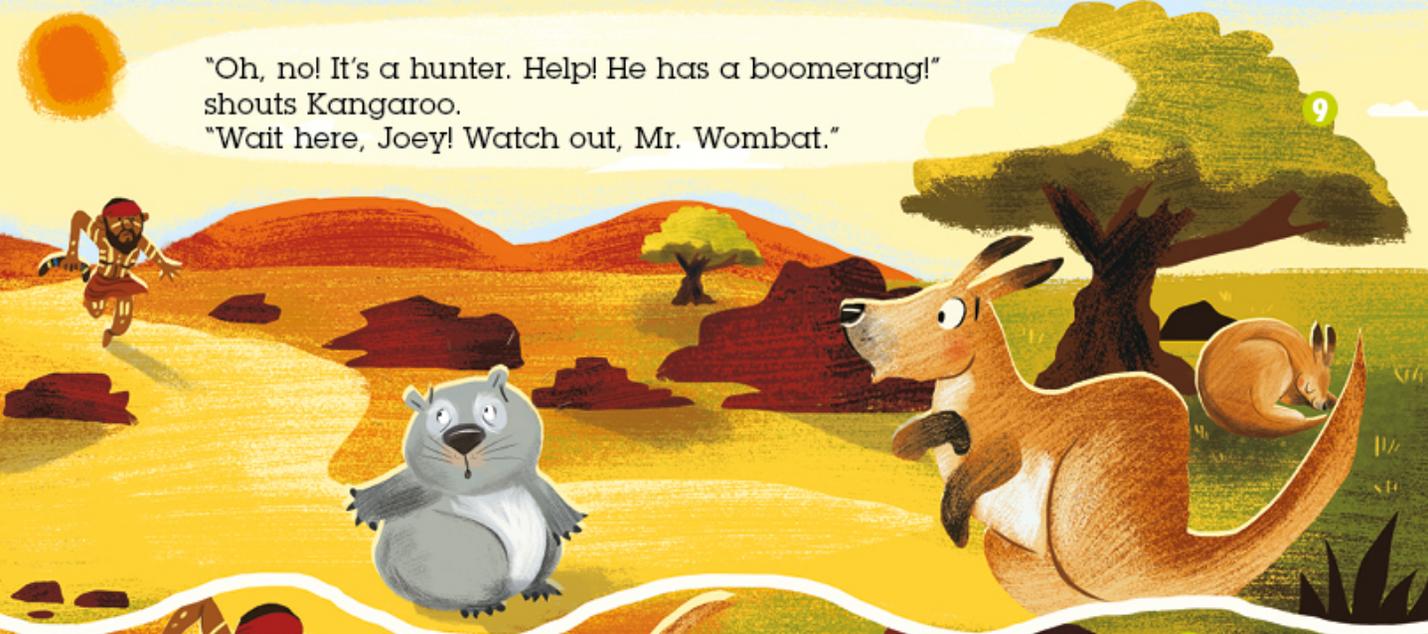


"Ah, there he is. He's sleeping.
Kangaroos sleep a lot in the
daytime."

"Oh, no! It's a hunter. Help! He has a boomerang!"
shouts Kangaroo.

"Wait here, Joey! Watch out, Mr. Wombat."

9



"You can't catch
me, Mr. Hunter!"
shouts Kangaroo.
"Oh, yes, I can!"
shouts the hunter.

BOING!

BOING!

Mrs. Kangaroo
is in a cave.
"He can't see
me in here."



11

27

"Now where's Joey? Ah, here he is. He's still sleeping. But Mr. Wombat isn't here."



12

"Come on, Joey. I'm very tired, but we need to find Mr. Wombat," says Kangaroo.



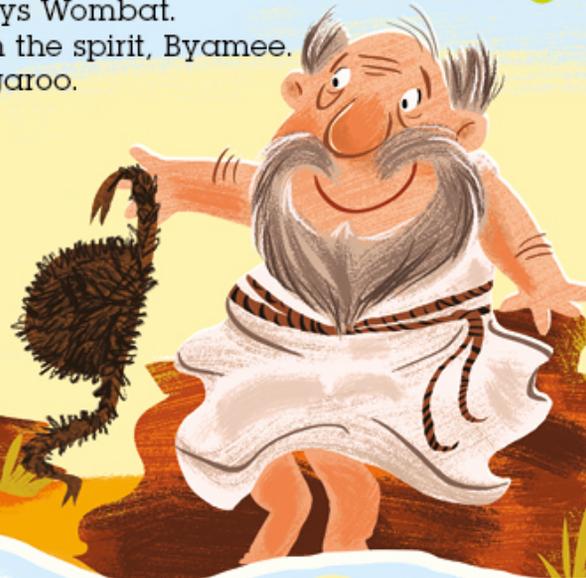
13

"He is old and his fur is gray. He can't see very well."

"I'm here, Mrs. Kangaroo," says Wombat. "I'm not really a wombat. I'm the spirit, Byamee. You are very nice, Mrs. Kangaroo. This bag is for you."



14



"Wow! It's a pouch. It's made of fur. Jump in, Joey!"

Joey loves the pouch. He eats in it and he sleeps in it. "Thank you, Byamee," says Kangaroo. "You're welcome!"

28



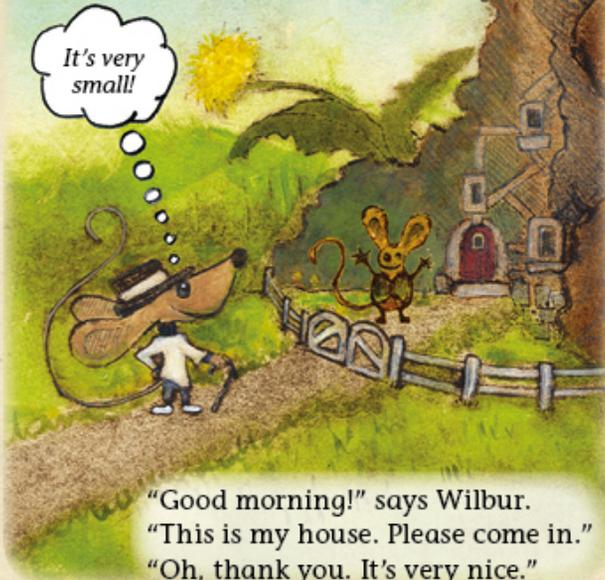
And now kangaroos have a pouch, and their babies are always safe.



16

The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

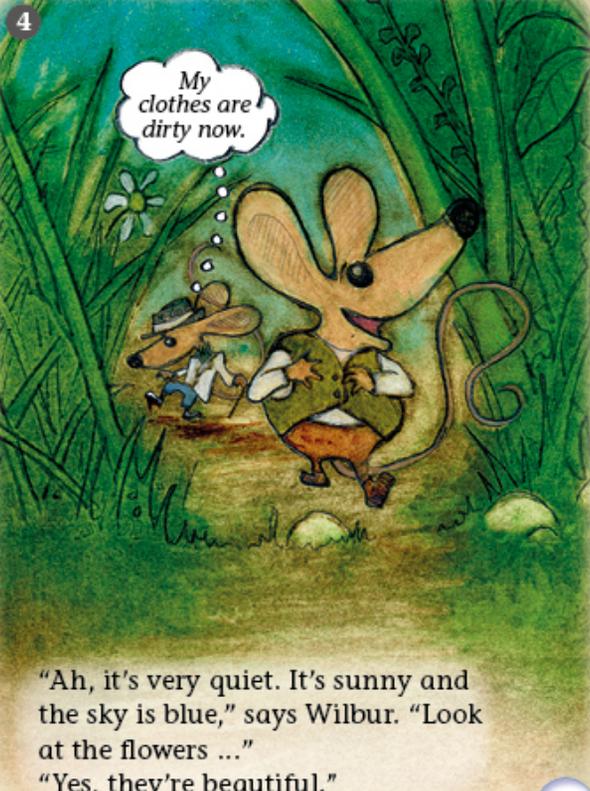
- 1 Freddy the Town Mouse visits his cousin, Wilbur, the Country Mouse.



- 2 "Would you like some lunch? I always have bread and cheese," says Wilbur.



- 3 After lunch ...
"What do you like to do on weekends?" asks Wilbur.
"I like to meet my friends in town and I like to go to the movies," says Freddy.
"Do you like to walk?"
"Oh yes!"



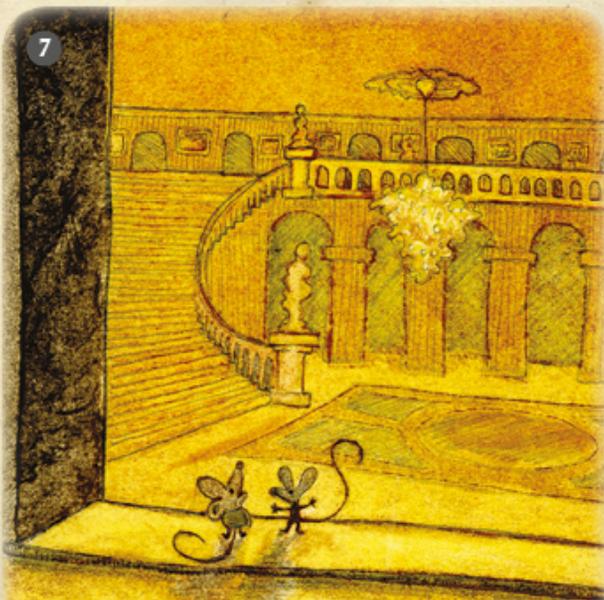
5 "Do you like to eat good food?" asks Freddy.
"Yes, of course."
"Would you like to come to my house in the town, next weekend?"
"Oh, yes, please!"



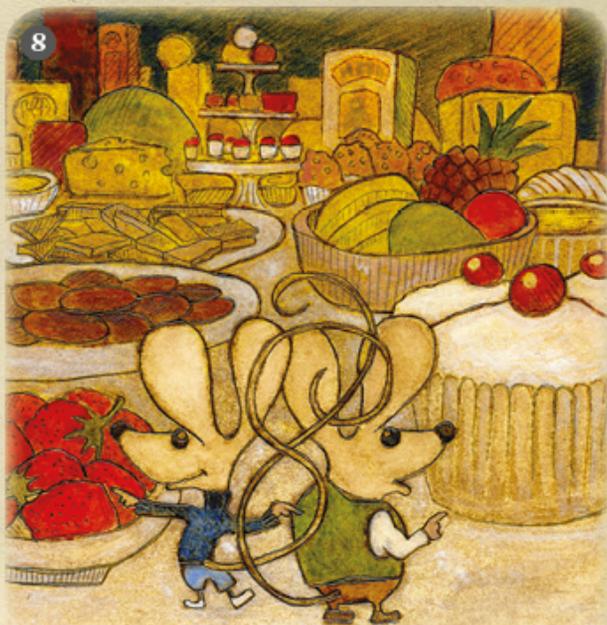
6 Next weekend ...



"Excuse me. Where does Freddy live?" Wilbur asks.
"Go straight. Take the first left, then the second right."



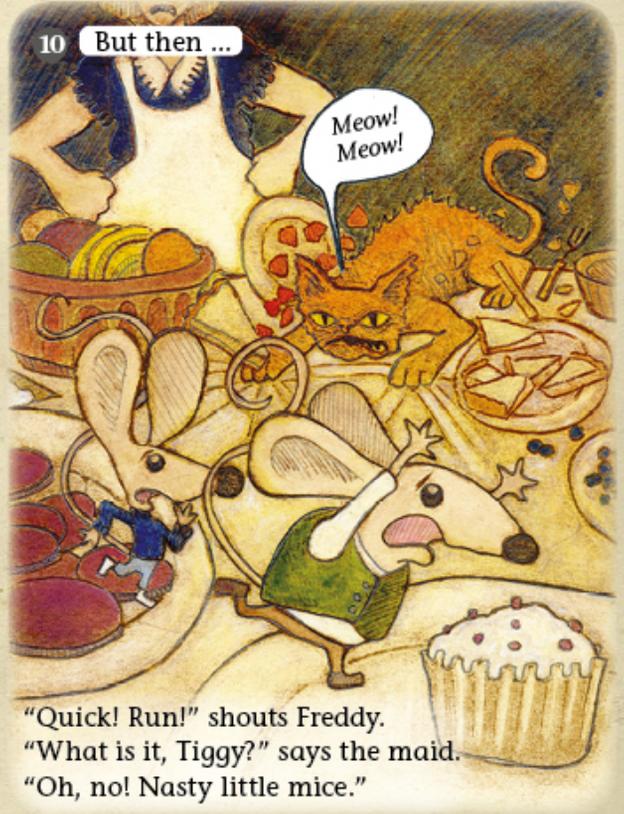
"Good evening!" says Freddy. "This is my house. Come in."
"Wow! It's very beautiful, and very big!" says Wilbur.



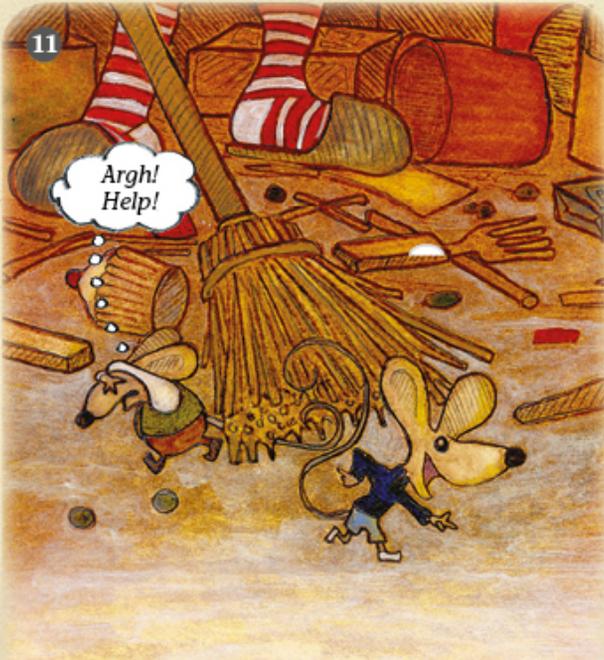
"Please sit down," says Freddy. "We have a lot of food—cake, chocolate, fruit."



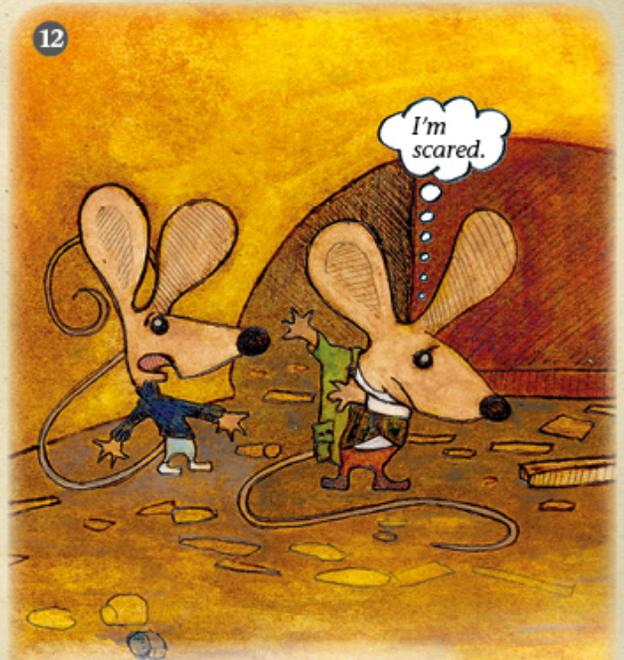
"Mm! I like fruit," says Wilbur.
"I love chocolate!"



"Quick! Run!" shouts Freddy.
"What is it, Tiggy?" says the maid.
"Oh, no! Nasty little mice."



"Life is so exciting in the town!"
says Freddy.



"What are you doing?"
"I'm going home."
"Why?"
"Because ... I don't like the town."

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