

ENGLISH



K-3
Foundational
Skills



GRADE 1 FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS UNIT 3
Fables | Reader

EDITION 1

Grade 1

Foundational Skills 3

Fables

Reader

Acknowledgement:

Thank you to all the Texas educators and stakeholders who supported the review process and provided feedback. These materials are the result of the work of numerous individuals, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions.

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The King Frog and the Big Ox

Adapted from: The Frog and the Ox (Aesop's Fables)

A big ox came to a cool pool for a sip.

“Sip, sip, sip,” went the big ox.

The big ox made a step in the pool. He sat in the cool pool to make his feet cool, too.



When he sat in the pool, he
made a big splash!



“Squish, splash! Squish, splash!”
went the big ox in the cool pool.

When the big ox sat back, he hit
the King Frog.

King Frog was in the mud and
the big ox hit him with a thud!

One of his big feet sat on top of
the King Frog.

The King Frog was stuck deep in
the mud.





A small frog on a log said,
“The King Frog is not here. Where
did he go?”

“A big ox came,” said all the frogs.
“He made a big splash in the cool
pool!”

They said, “When he came, he
hit the King Frog with one of his big
feet.”

“Was he big?” said the small frog.
He made a big puff to seem like the
big ox.

“Was the ox as big as this?” said
the small frog.



All the frogs said, “No, he was big,
BIG!”

“Was he this big?” The small frog
made two puffs.

All the frogs said, “No, the ox
was big, big, BIG!”

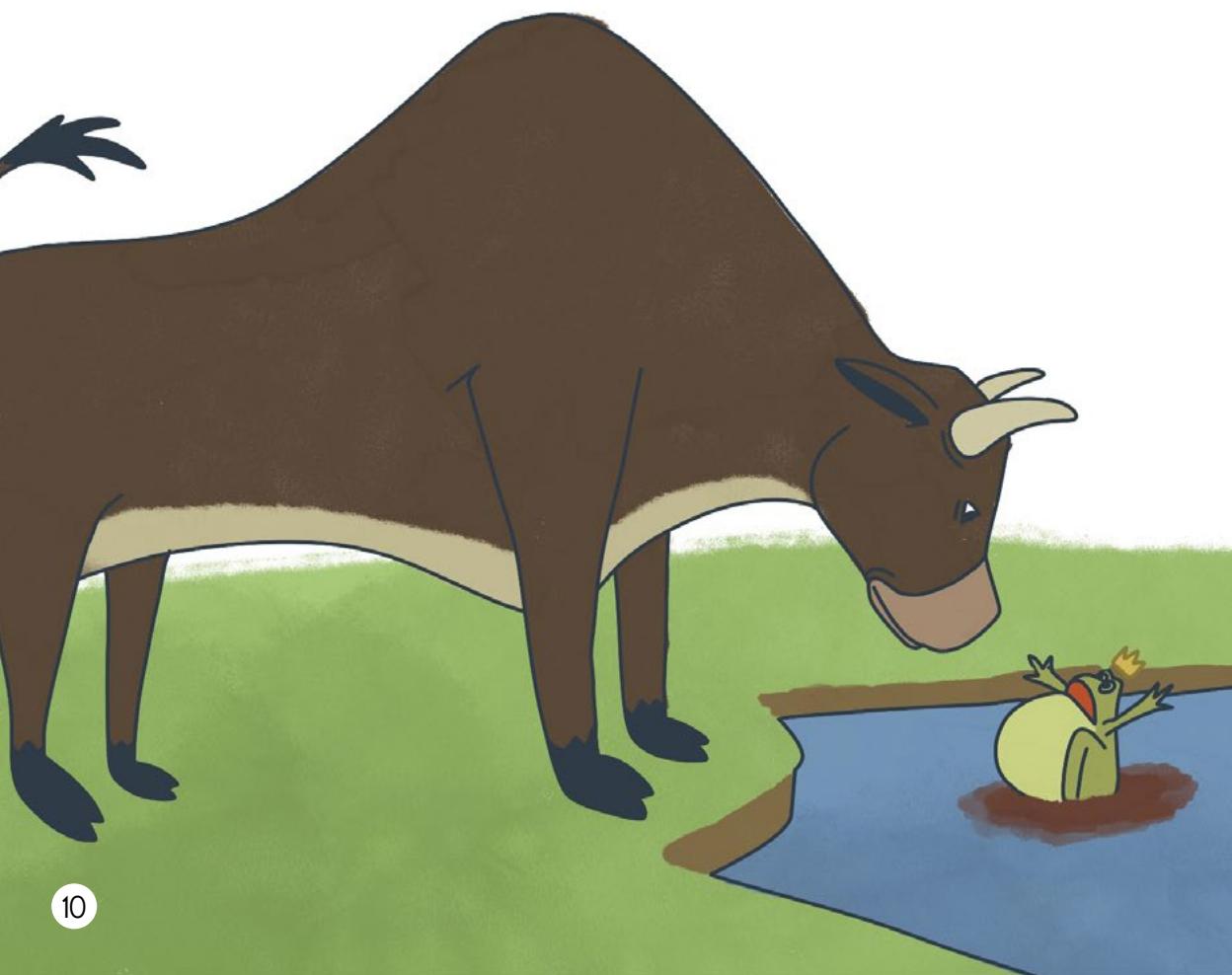
“This big?” The small frog gave
a puff, puff, PUFF!





The ox came from the **cool pool**.
His big sips came to a stop. He sat
on the green grass to rest his big,
wet feet.

The King Frog sat up from the
mud in the **cool pool**. He said, “That
ox was this big!”



He gave a puff, puff, puff, PUFF to seem like the big ox.

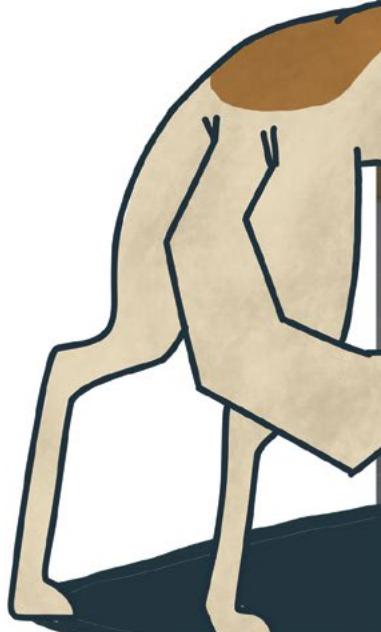
With a POP, the King Frog was gone.



The Two Dogs

Once two dogs met. One of them was a tame dog who made his home with men. One was a dog who ran free.

The dog who ran free stared at the tame dog and said, “Why is it that you are so plump and I am so thin?”





“Well,” said the tame dog, “I am plump because the men feed me. I do not have to run all the time to get my food. My job is to keep the home safe when the men are in their beds. When they wake up, they feed me scraps of food from their plates.”

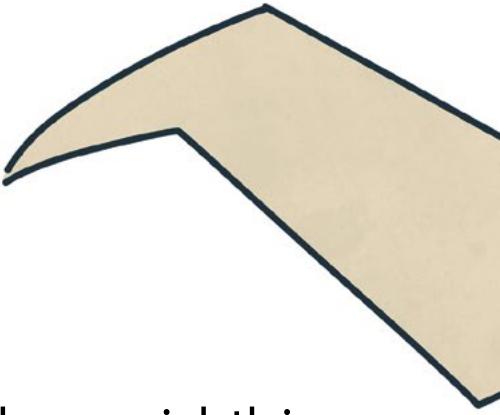


“Your life must be a fine life,” said the thin dog. “I wish my life were like yours.”

The plump dog said, “If you will help me keep the home safe, I bet the men will feed you, too.”

“I will do it!” said the thin dog.





But just as the thin dog said this,
the **moon** shone on the neck of the
plump dog.

The thin dog said, “What is that
on your neck?”

“I am on a rope when the sun is
up,” said the plump dog.

“Rope?” said the thin dog. “Do
they keep you on a rope?”

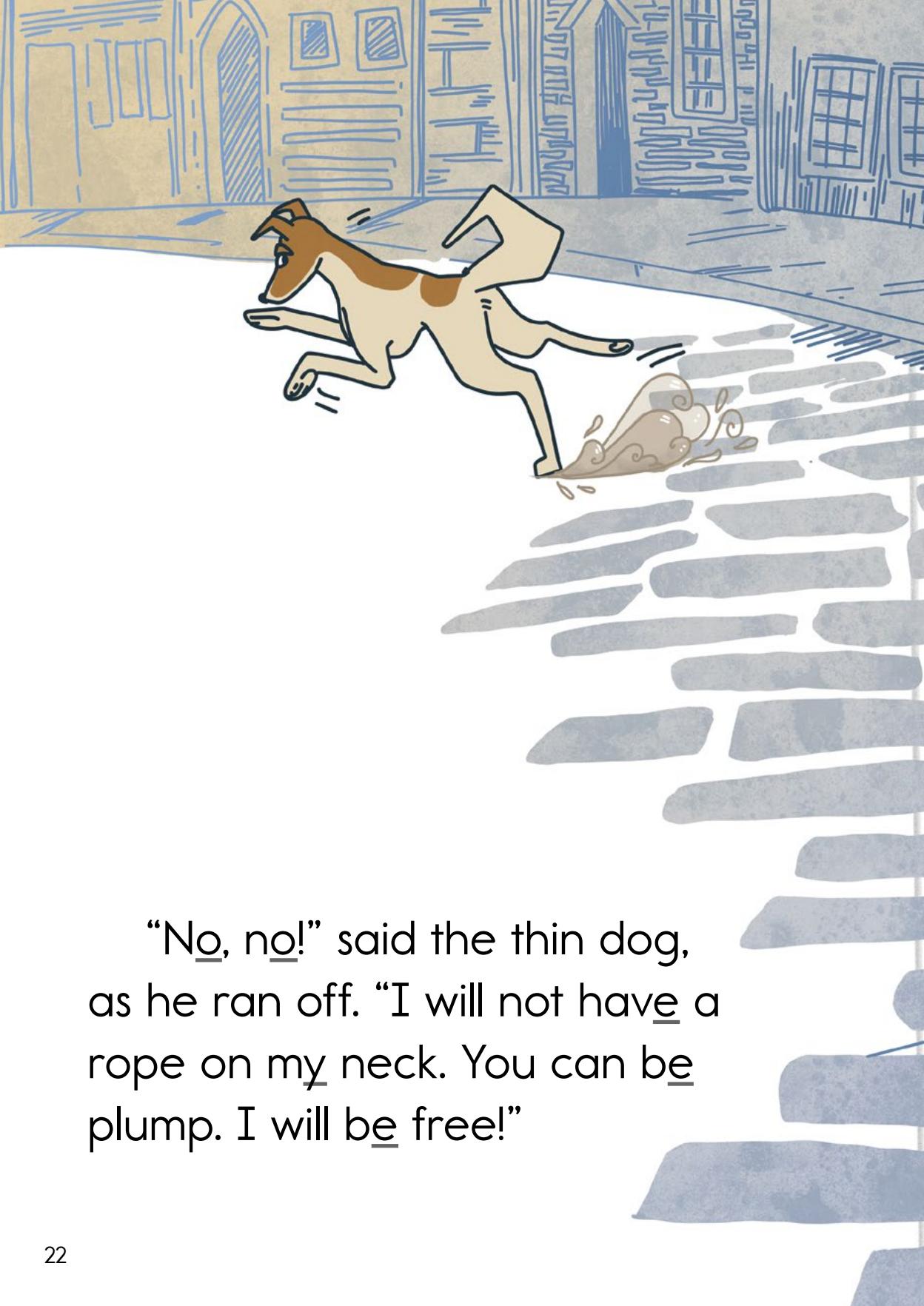






“Yes,” said the plump dog. “When the moon is up, the men let me free, but when the sun shines, they keep me on a rope. I can not run and be free when the sun is up, but it is not so bad.”





“No, no!” said the thin dog,
as he ran off. “I will not have a
rope on my neck. You can be
plump. I will be free!”



The Hares and the Frogs

Three hares stood in the grass.

“I am sad,” one of them said. “I wish we were brave.”

“So do I,” said the next one. “But we are not brave. A splash in the brook scares us. The wind in the grass scares us. We are scared all the time.”

“Yes,” said the last one. “It is sad to be a hare.”



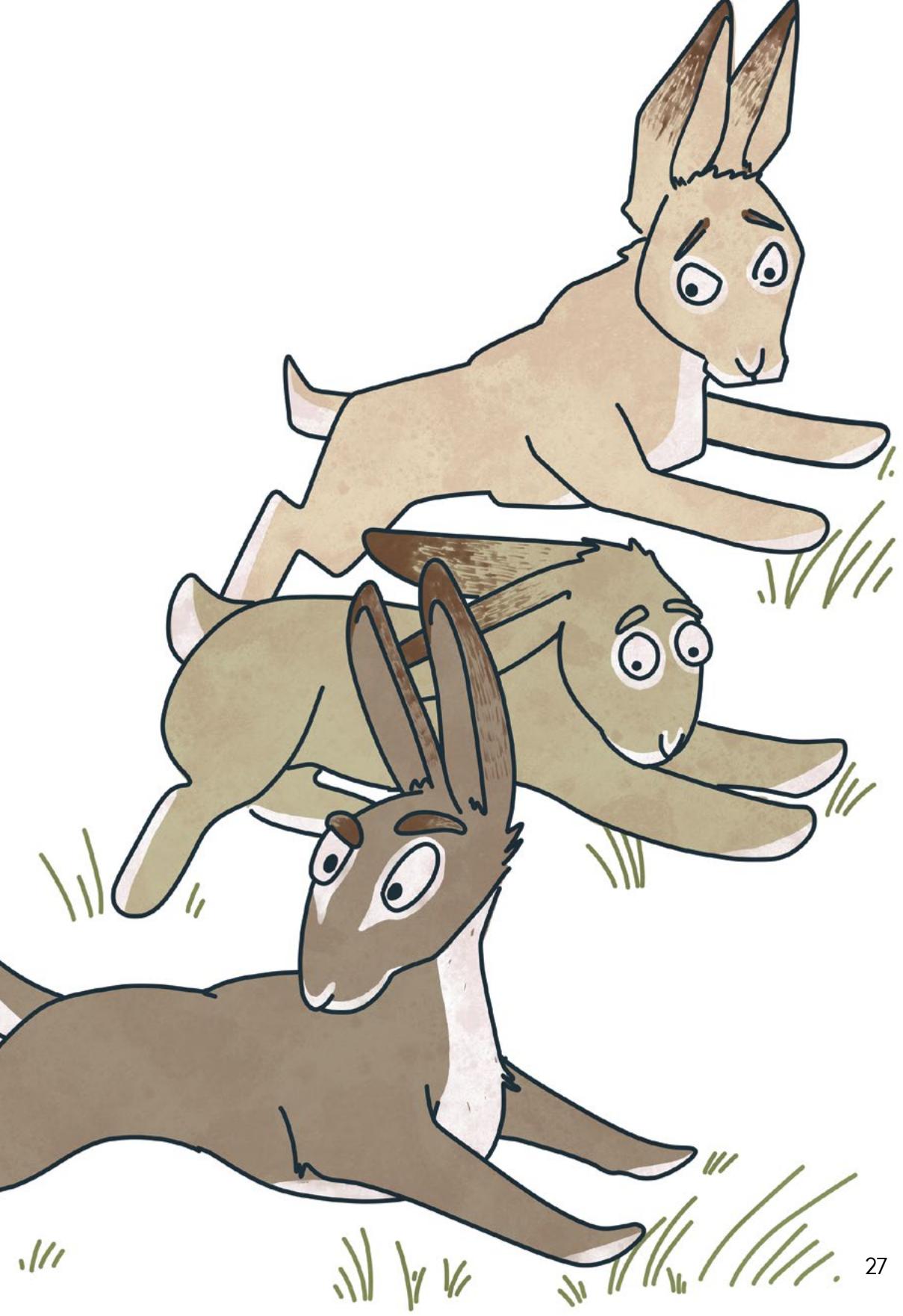
Just then there was a splash in the brook. The splash scared the hares. They ran off to hide. As they ran, they scared a bunch of frogs.

“Look,” said one of the hares. “The frogs are scared of us!”

“Yes, they are!” said the next hare. “They are scared of us! Well, I’m glad I am not a frog!”

“Yes!” said the last hare. “In the end, it is good to be a hare!”





The Two Mules

Once a man went on a trip with two mules. He set five packs on one mule and five packs on the next one.

The black mule was strong. The mule with spots was not as strong, and by noon, he was tired. The mule with the spots felt the packs press on his back and he could not keep up with the black mule.



The mule with the spots spoke to the black mule. “I hate to ask,” he said, “but would you help me with my packs?”

The black mule did not stop to help the mule with spots.

“I have my five packs and you have your five,” he said.





The mule with spots went on as long as he could. At last, he fell and could not get up.

The man set all ten of the packs on the black mule.

“What a fool I was!” the black mule said. “I did not help the mule with spots when I should have. If I had, I would not have to lift all of his packs as well as mine.”



The Dog and the Mule

Once there was a man who had a dog and a mule. The man gave the dog scraps of food from his plate. He let the dog lick his spoon. The dog would sit on the man's lap and lick him. The man would rub the dog and kiss him.

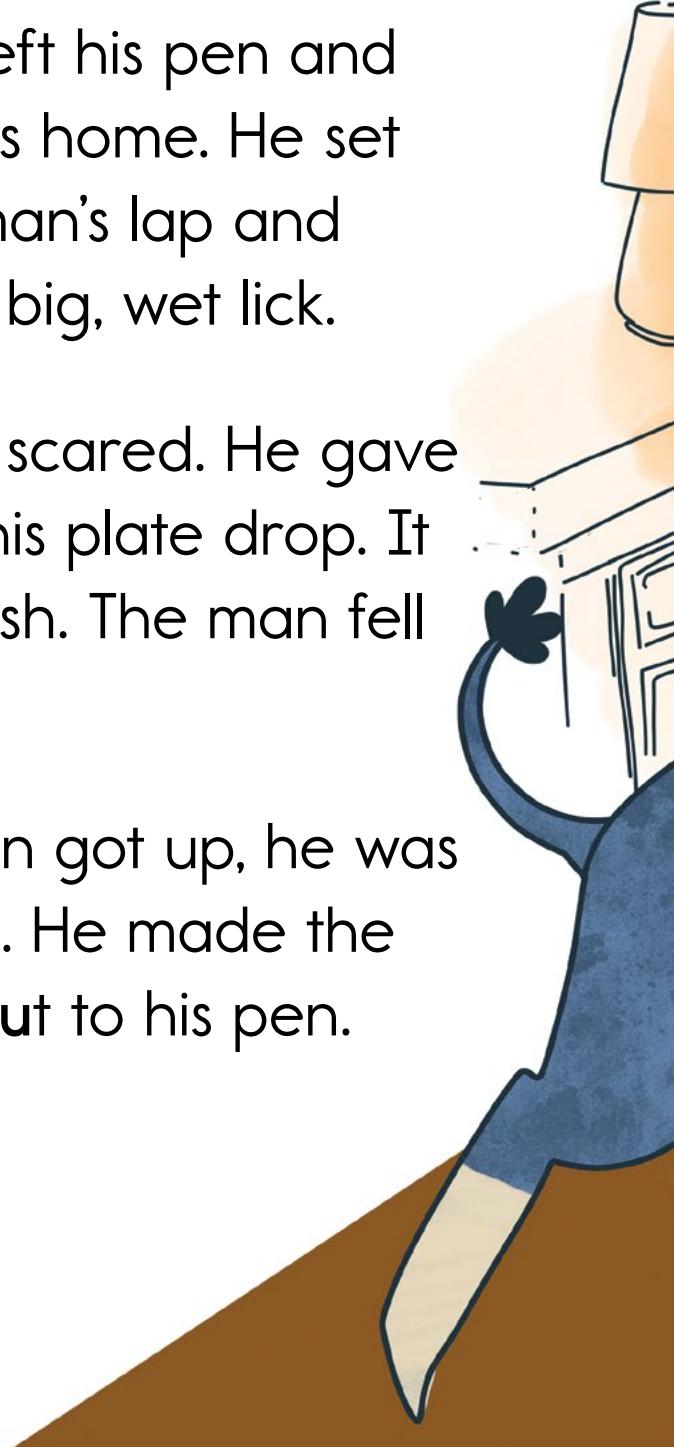


The mule would look in and see the dog on the man's lap. He felt sad. He felt left out.

"The man feeds me," said the mule, "but I do not get food from his plate. I'm left out because I am a mule. I should act like a dog. If I do that, the man will like me just as much as he likes the dog."







So the mule left his pen and went in the man's home. He set his feet on the man's lap and gave the man a big, wet lick.

The man was scared. He gave a shout and let his plate drop. It broke with a crash. The man fell down, too.

When the man got up, he was mad at the mule. He made the mule run back **out** to his pen.



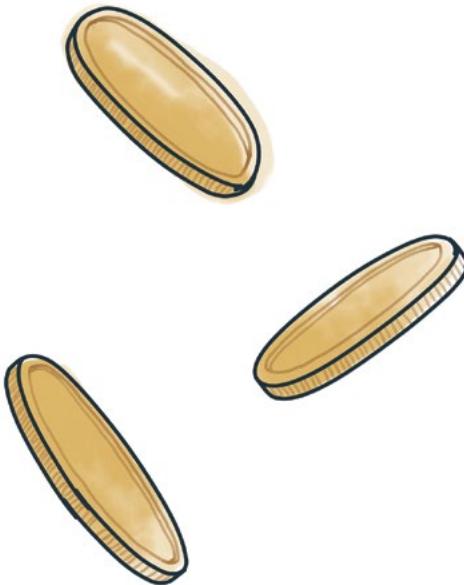
The Bag of Coins

Once two men went on a trip.
One of them found a bag of coins
on the ground, at the foot of a
tree.

“Look what I found!” he said.
“It is a bag of coins!”







“Good!” said the next man. “We can **count** the **coins** and see what we have!”

“No,” said the man with the bag. “The **coins** in this bag are not **our** coins. They are my **coins**. I **found** them. They are all **mine!**”





Just then there was a **loud shout**.
There were a bunch of men and
they were mad.

“**Look!**” they shouted. “There is
a man with the bag. He stole **our**
coins!”

“Get him!” said the rest.



The man with the **coins** was scared. “Those men are mad,” he said. “If they see us with the **coins**, we will be in a bad spot.”

“No, no,” said the man next to him. “If they see you, you will be in a bad spot. Those are not **our coins**. Those are your coins. You **found** them. They are all yours.”





The Dog and the Ox

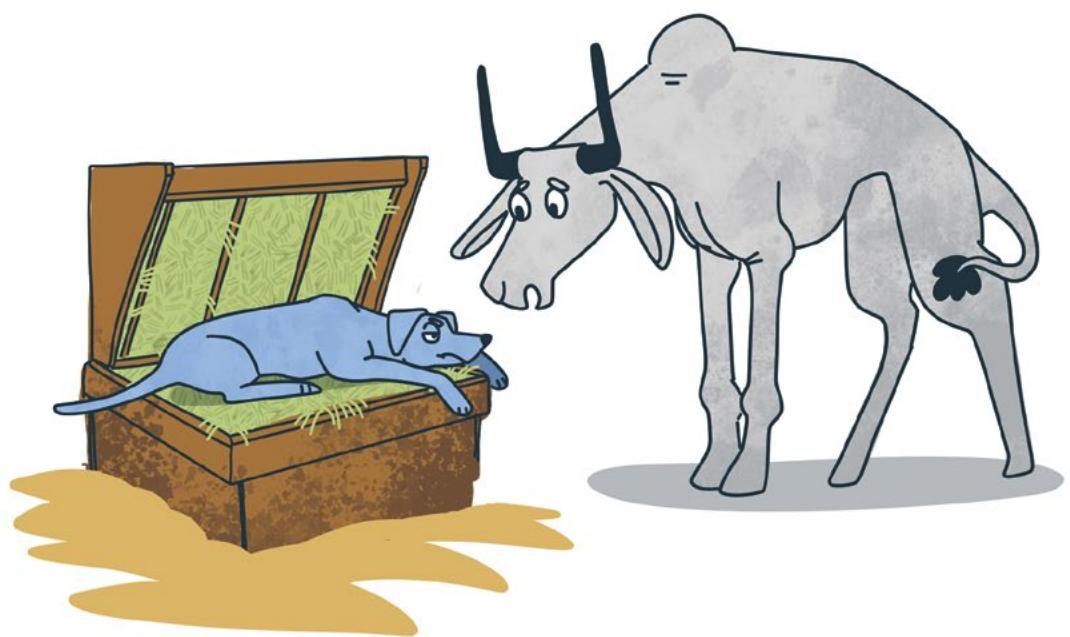
Once a dog took a nap on a pile of stuff in a box. “That straw looks good for sleeping,” said the dog. But it was not straw in the box. The box was not a bed.

When the ox came home, he saw the dog in his food box. But he could not get to the food because the dog was on top of it.



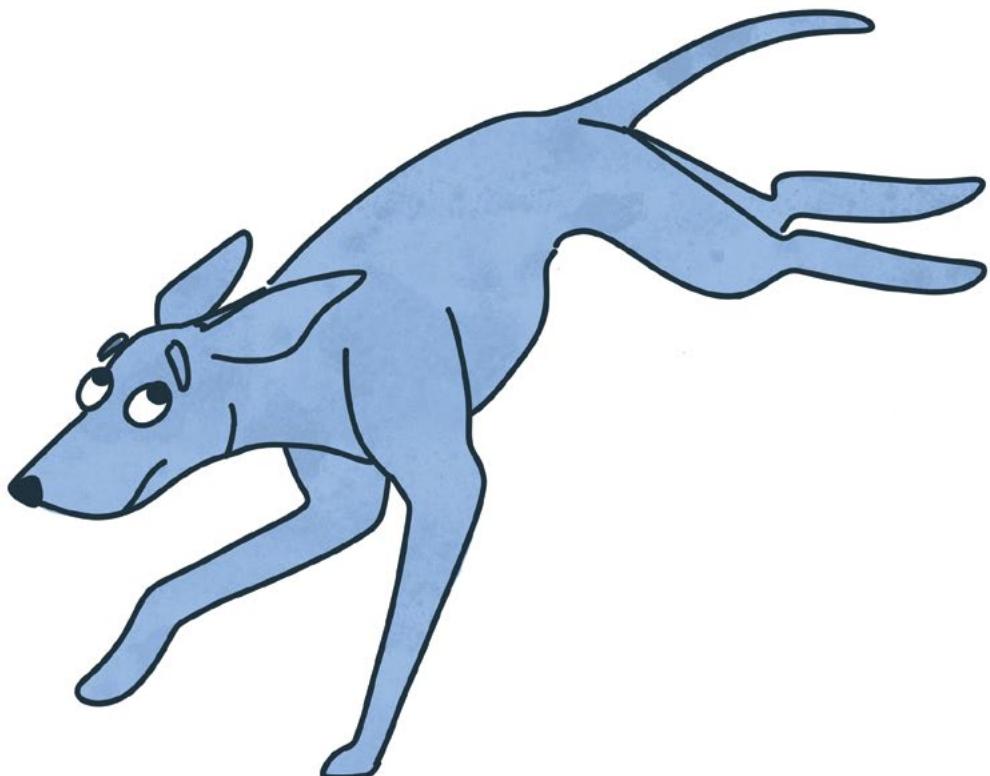
“Dog,” said the ox, “There is straw in the loft. Could you sleep up in the loft? I would like to munch on the food in my box.”

The dog woke up, but he would not get off the food box. He was mad that the ox woke him up.



At last, a man came in and **saw** the dog on the **food** box.

“Bad dog!” said the man. “That box is not a bed. It has **food** for the ox, but you would not let him have it! Shame on you! Get up! You should sleep on the **straw** in the loft.”





The Fox and the Grapes

A fox **saw** a bunch of ripe grapes that hung from the branch of a tree.

The fox said, “Those grapes look good. I will get them and make them my lunch.”

The fox **stood** up on his back legs, but he could not grab the grapes.



The fox made a hop, but he could not grab the grapes.

The fox ran and made a big jump, but he still could not get the grapes.

At last, the fox sat down on the ground.

“What a fool I am!” said the fox. “I can tell that those grapes are sour. They would not have made a good lunch.”



The Fox and the Hen

A hen sat in a tree. A red fox ran up to the tree.

“Did they tell you?” said the fox.

“Tell me what?” said the hen.



“They have made a law,” said the fox. “The law says that we must all be pals. Dogs are not to chase cats. They must be pals. Cats are not to chase rats. They must be pals. Dog and cat, fox and hen, snake and rat must all be pals! So jump down here and let me hug you!”



“Well, that sounds swell!” said the hen. “But, all the same, I will sit up here a bit.”

Then the hen said, “What’s that I see?”

“Where?” said the fox. “What is it?”

“It looks like a pack of dogs,” said the hen.

“Dogs!” said the fox. “Then I must get out of here!”



“Stop!” said the hen. “The law says that dog and fox must be pals. So you are safe!”

But the fox did not stop. He ran off.

The hen just smiled.





The Fox and the Crane

The fox saw the crane and said,
“Crane, will you have lunch with
me?”

The crane said, “I will.”

The crane came and sat down
with the fox in his den.

The fox was up to a trick. He
gave the crane some food, but he
gave it to him in a flat stone dish.
The crane could not get the food
because of the shape of his bill. The
fox smiled at his trick. He ate up all
of his food.





The next week the crane saw the fox and said, “Fox, will you have lunch with me?”

The fox said, “That would be good. I will.”

This time the crane was up to a trick. He gave the fox milk, but he gave it to him in a glass with a long, thin neck. The fox could not get the milk because of the shape of his nose.



The Tree and the Reeds

A proud tree stood next to a grove of reeds. When a gust of wind came, the reeds bent in the wind. But the proud tree did not bend at all. It stood up to the wind.

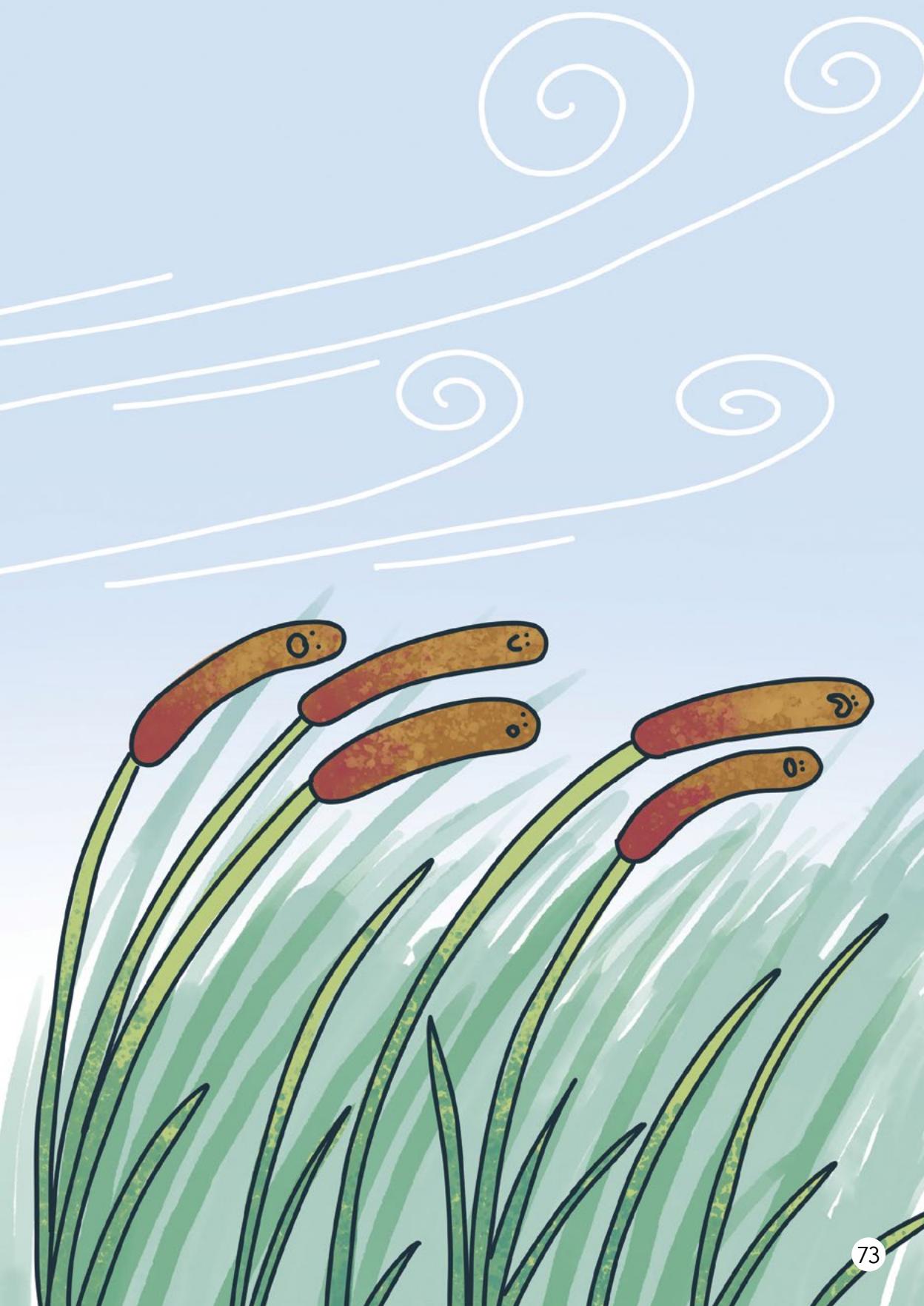


“It is too bad that you can’t stand up to the wind as I can!” said the tree to the reeds.

“We bend so that we will not crack,” said the reeds.

“There is no wind that can crack me!” said the tree in its pride.

“We shall see!” said the reeds.



The next week a big wind came. The tree was brave. It stood up a long time. But the gusts of wind were too strong. At last, there was a loud crack. The tree fell with a crash.

The reeds bent in the strong wind, but they did not crack. They still stand by the brook. You can see them wave in the wind next to the roots of the tree.





The Moon

The moon said, “I wish I had a dress. Mom, will you make me a dress?”

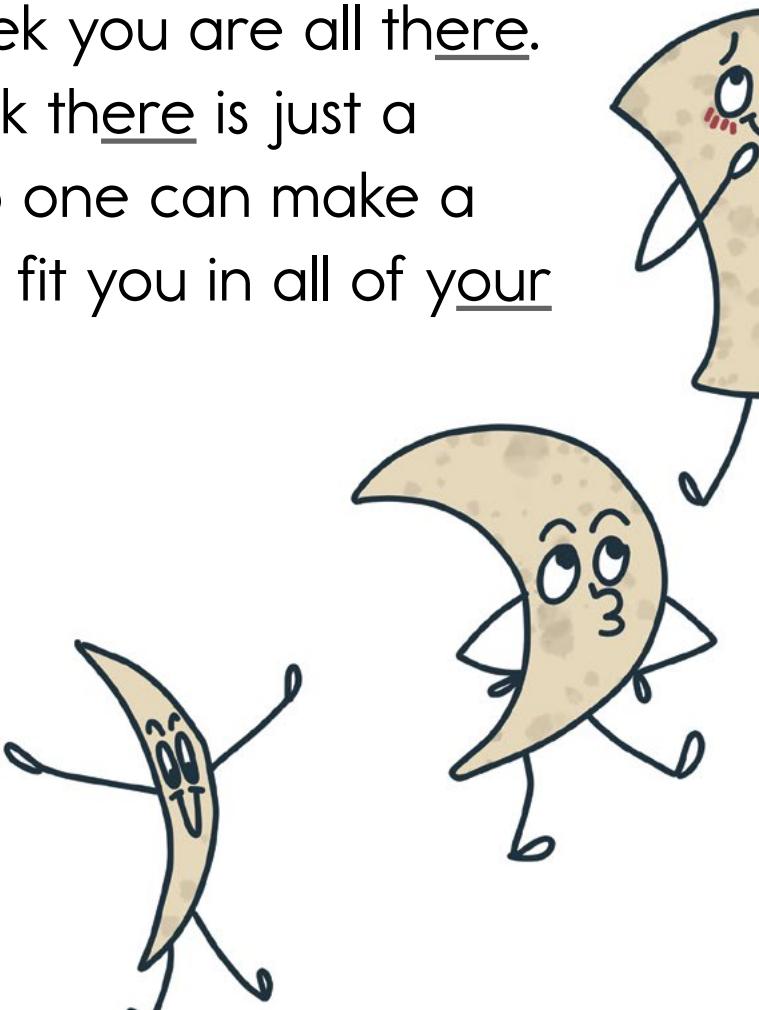
The moon’s mom said, “I will not make you a dress, my sweet.”

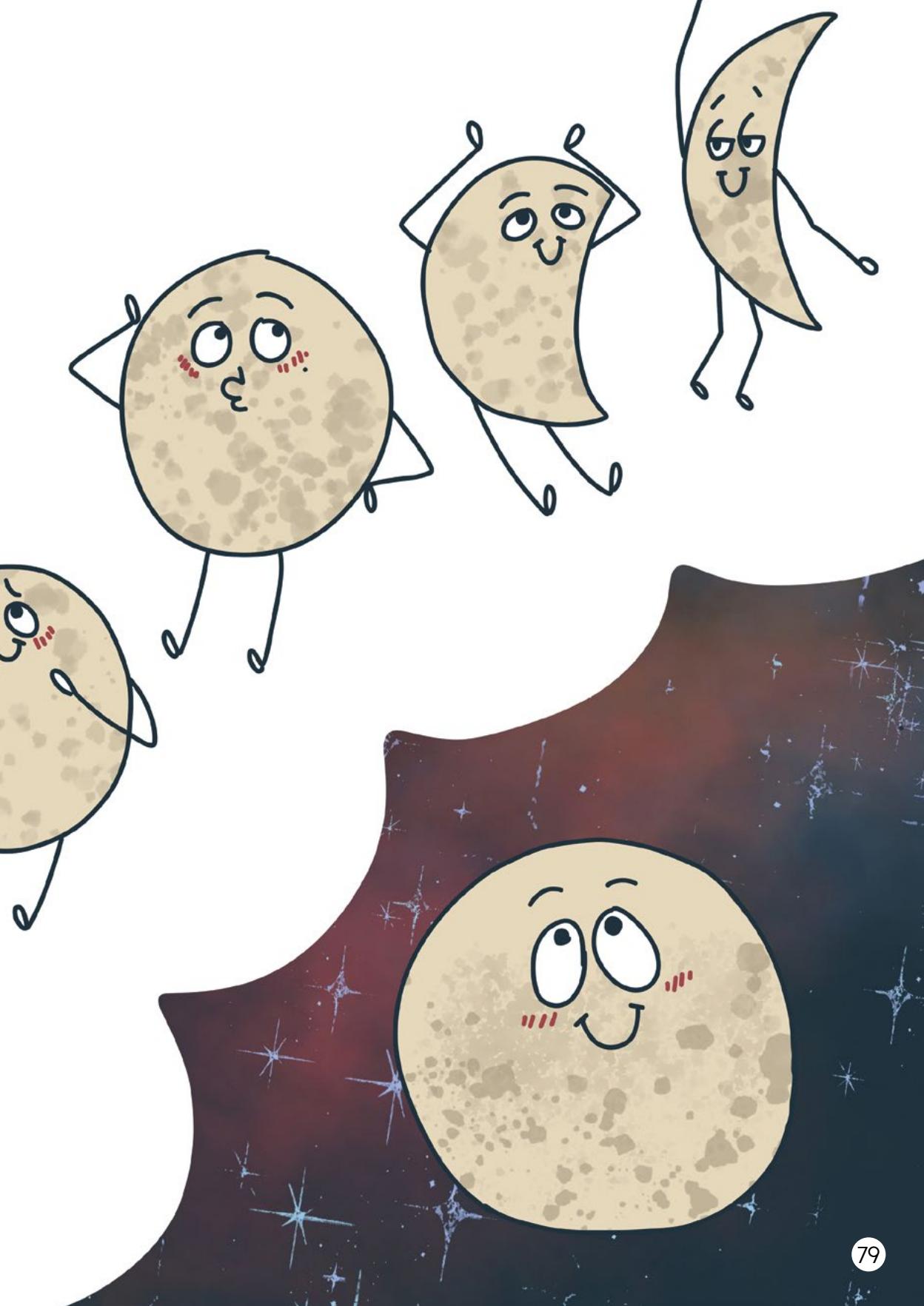


“Why not?” said the moon.

“Because you wax and you wane,” said the moon’s mom.

“One week you are big and round. The next week you are thin. One week you are all there. The next week there is just a bit of you. No one can make a dress that will fit you in all of your shapes!”





About this Book

This book has been created for use by students learning to read with the program. Readability levels are suitable for early readers. The book has also been carefully leveled in terms of its “code load,” or the number of spellings used in the stories.

The English writing system is complex. It uses more than 200 spellings to stand for 40-odd sounds. Many sounds can be spelled several different ways, and many spellings can be pronounced several different ways. This book has been designed to make early reading experiences simpler and more productive by using a subset of the available spellings. It uses *only* spellings students have been taught to sound out as part of their phonics lessons, plus a handful of Tricky Words, which have also been deliberately introduced in the lessons. This means the stories will be 100% decodable if they are assigned at the proper time.

As the students move through the program, they learn new spellings and the “code load” in the decodable Readers increases gradually. The code load graphic on this page indicates the number of spellings students are expected to know in order to read the first story of the book and the number of spellings students are expected to know in order to read the final stories in the book. The columns on the opposite page list the specific spellings and Tricky Words students are expected to recognize at the beginning of this Reader. The bullets at the bottom of the opposite page identify spellings, Tricky Words, and other topics that are introduced gradually in the unit this Reader accompanies.



Code Knowledge assumed at the beginning of this Reader:

VOWEL SOUNDS AND SPELLINGS:

/i/ as in skim

/e/ as in bed

/a/ as in tap

/u/ as in up

/o/ as in flop

/ee/ as in bee

/ae/ as in cake

/ie/ as in bite

/oe/ as in home

/ue/ as in cute

CONSONANT SOUNDS AND SPELLINGS:

/m/ as in swim, swimming

/n/ as in run, running

/t/ as in bat, batting

/d/ as in bid, bidding

/k/ as in cat, kid, rock, soccer

/g/ as in log, logging

/f/ as in fat, huff

/s/ as in sit, hiss

/z/ as in zip, hums, buzz

/v/ as in yet

/p/ as in tip, tipping

/b/ as in rub, rubbing

/l/ as in lamp, fill

/r/ as in rip, ferret

/h/ as in ham

/w/ as in wet

/j/ as in log

/y/ as in yes

/x/ as in box

/ch/ as in chin

/sh/ as in shop

/th/ as in then

/th/ as in thin

/ng/ as in king

/qu/ as in quit

OTHER:

- Punctuation (period, comma, quotation marks, question mark, exclamation point)

TRICKY WORDS:

a, I, no, so, of, all, some, from, word, are, were, have, one, once, to, do, two, who, the, said, says, was, when, where, why, what, which, here, there, he, she, we, be, me, they, their, my, by, you, your

Code Knowledge added gradually in the unit for this Reader:

- Beginning with "The King Frog and the Big Ox": /oo/ spelled 'oo' as in soon
- Beginning with "The Two Dogs": Tricky Word *because*
- Beginning with "The Hares and the Frogs": /oo/ spelled 'oo' as in look
- Beginning with "The Two Mules": Tricky Words *could*, *would*, *should*
- Beginning with "The Dog and the Mule": /ou/ spelled 'ou' as in shout; Tricky Word *down*
- Beginning with "The Bag of Coins": /oi/ spelled 'oi' as in oil
- Beginning with "The Dog and the Ox": /aw/ spelled 'aw' as in paw

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