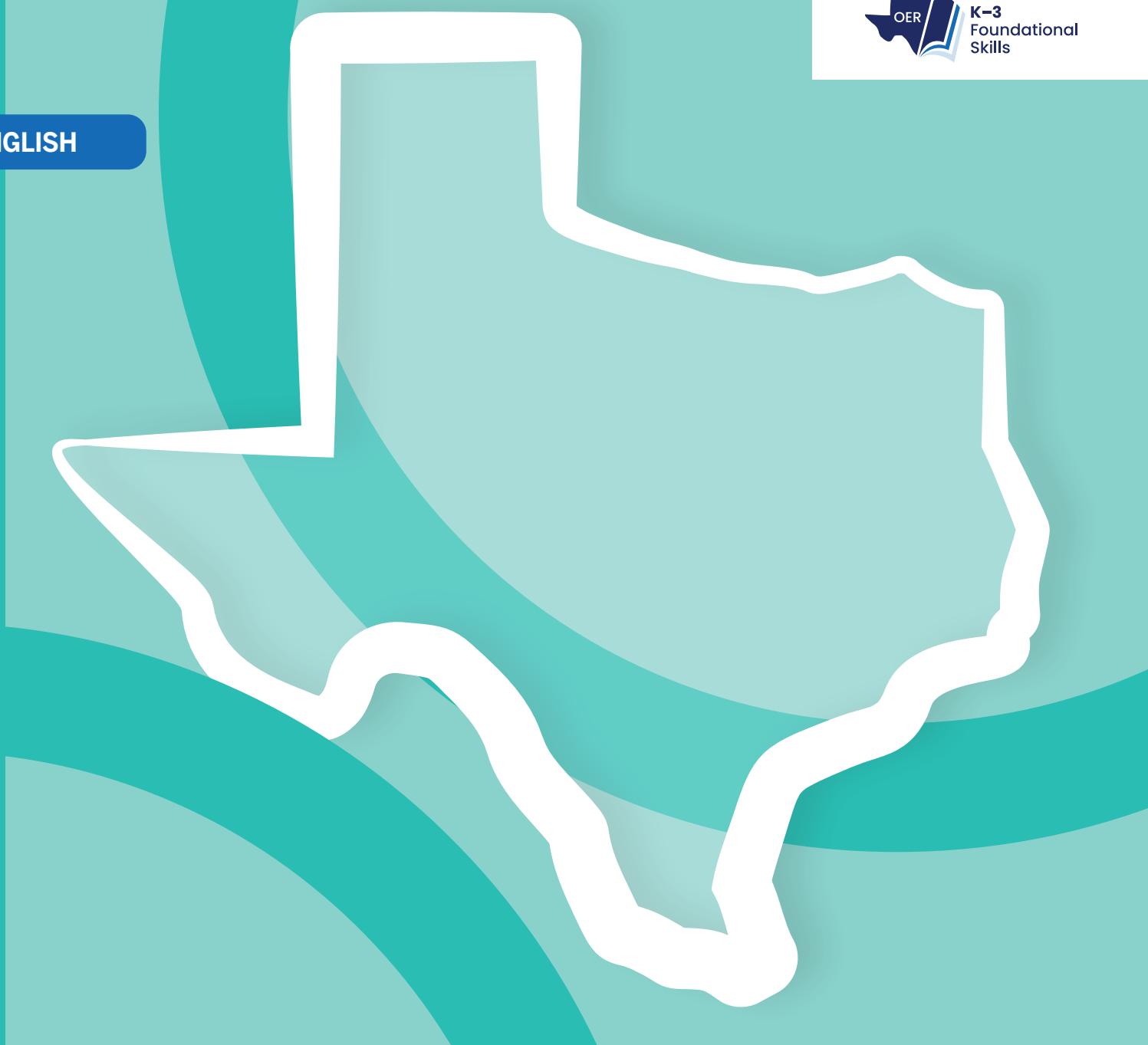




ENGLISH



GRADE 1 FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS UNIT 4

Reader

EDITION 1

Grade 1

Foundational Skills 4

The Green Fern Zoo

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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Table of Contents

The Green Fern Zoo

Foundational Skills 4 Reader

Chapter 1: Meet Vern	2
Chapter 2: Things that Swim	4
Chapter 3: Chimps	10
Chapter 4: Mandrills	18
Chapter 5: Things with Wings	24
Chapter 6: Big Cats	30
Chapter 7: Groundhogs	36
Chapter 8: The Reptile Room	42
Chapter 9: Termites	50
Chapter 10: River Otters	56
Chapter 11: Cranes and Spoonbills	60
Pausing Point (Stories for Assessment and Enrichment)	
Chapter 12: The Ostrich	66
Chapter 13: Deer	68
Chapter 14: The Petting Zoo	70
Glossary	77



GRE



CHAPTER 1

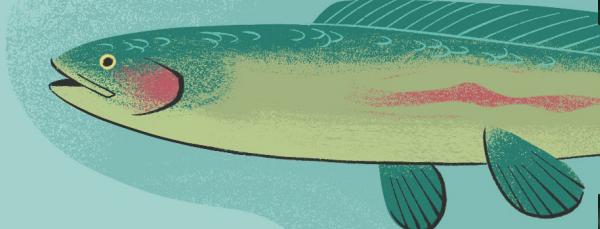
Meet Vern

My name is Vern, and I have the best job! My job is to take you kids in to see the Green Fern Zoo.

We will see things with wings and things with scales, things that bite and things that sting, things that creep and things that swim.

I have lots of fun facts and tales to share with you. So let's see the zoo and have some fun!





CHAPTER 2

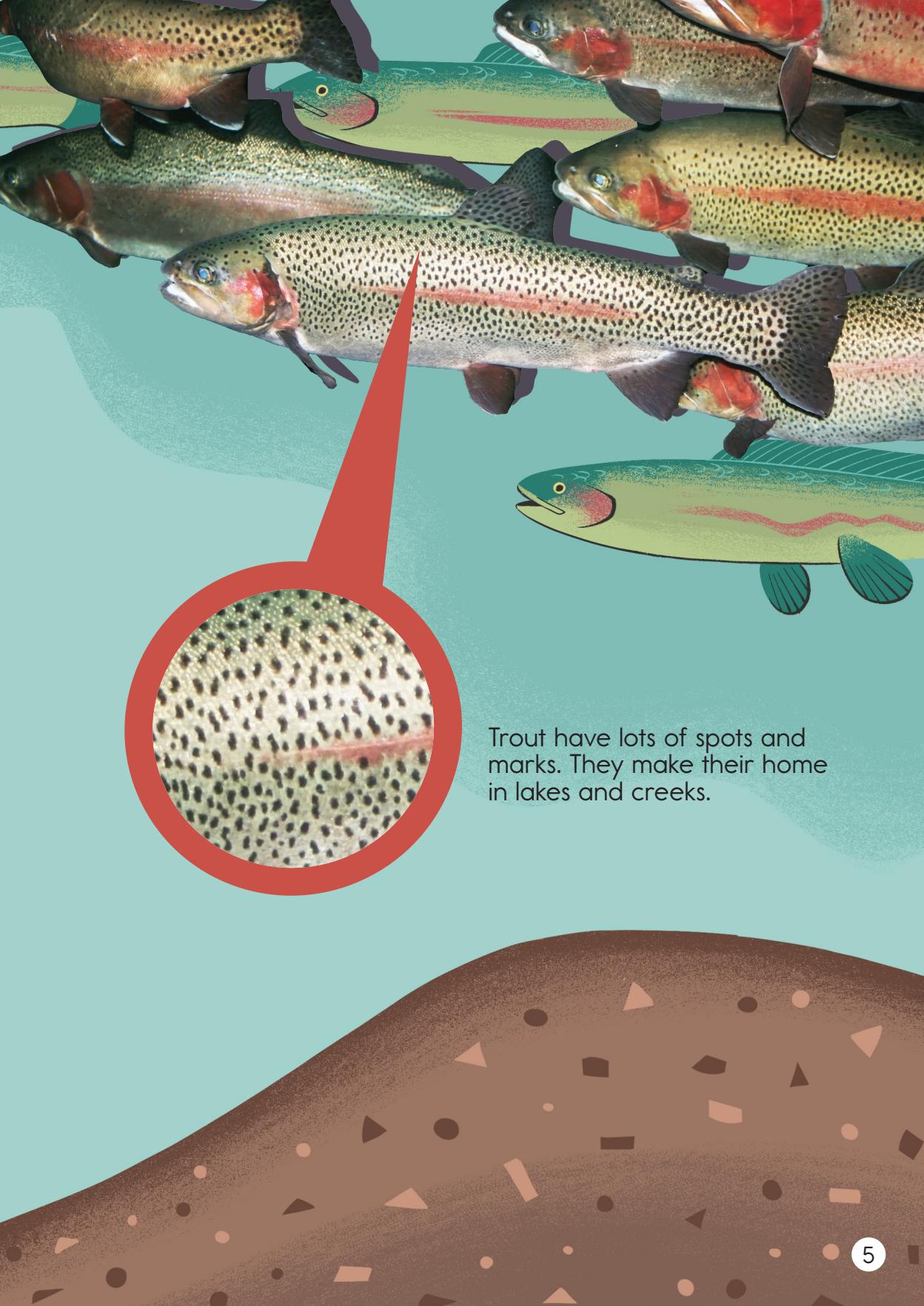
Things that Swim

I hope you kids like things that swim, be·cause this is the room where we keep all the fish.



Trout

The fish here are trout. A trout is a fish that swims in cool lakes and creeks. You can see that they have lots of spots and marks. The spots and marks help the trout hide. They make the trout look a lot like the sand on the bed of a creek.



Trout have lots of spots and marks. They make their home in lakes and creeks.

Reef Sharks

Here's a big fish that makes all of the wee fish run and hide. This is a reef shark. It has that name be-cause it likes to make its home close to a reef, where there are lots of fish.



Reef sharks make their home by reefs.



What Reef Sharks Look Like

You can see that the reef shark has fins and a set of gills on its side. You can not see them from here, but this shark has lots of sharp teeth in its mouth.

Food Reef Sharks Like

Would a reef shark bite you? Well, you are not the lunch that this shark would like best. A reef shark likes to feed on squid, crabs, and shrimp. But it would be smart not to get the reef shark mad at you all the same!



Reef sharks have fins, gills, and sharp teeth.

CHAPTER 3

Chimps

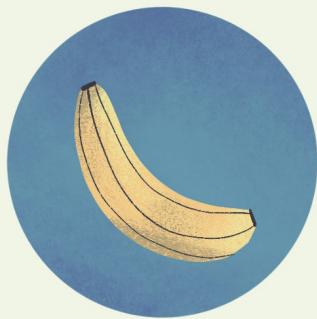
Next, let's see the chimps. We have ten chimps here at the Green Fern Zoo. You can see them all out there if you look hard.



Food Chimps Like

The one you see here is Bess. She has a snack in **her** mouth. Bess and the rest of the chimps like to munch on plants, nuts, and seeds.

Chimps like to munch on plants, nuts, and seeds.



More Food Chimps Like

Do you see that chimp with the stick? That's Bart. Bart likes to have ants **for** lunch. To get the ants, he takes a stick and sticks it in an ant hill. Then he lifts it up and licks off the ants. Yum, yum!





Chimps like to munch on ants.

Max the Babe

The chimp with the rope in his hand is Max. He's just a babe. He was born in March. Bess is his mom.

Max is a lot of fun. He likes to swing on the rope and splash in the pool.





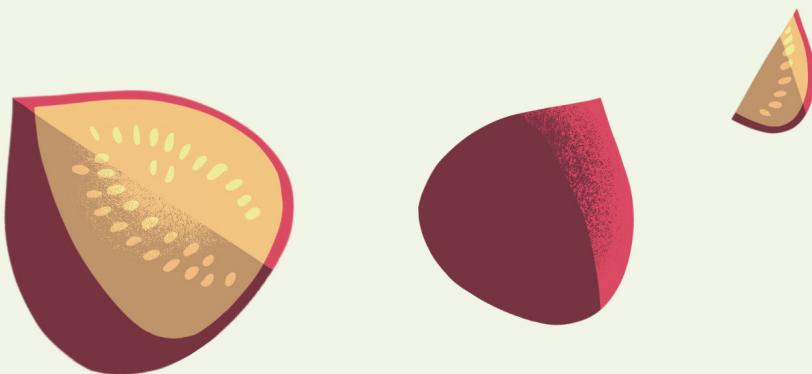
Chimps like to have fun.

Carl and Norm—Pals or Not Pals?

The two chimps up on the rocks are Carl and Norm. Carl is the one on the left. Carl and Norm are pals. But they were not pals last week.

Last week we gave them a branch from a fig tree for lunch. Norm took the branch and ran off with it. He ate all of the figs. Carl was mad at Norm all week.

But that was last week. This week the two of them are pals.



Carl and Norm



CHAPTER 4

Mandrills

What Mandrills Look Like

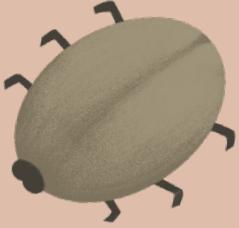
Here you can see two man·drills. Man·drills are a lot like chimps.

Do you like the red nose? The man·drill with the red nose is a male.

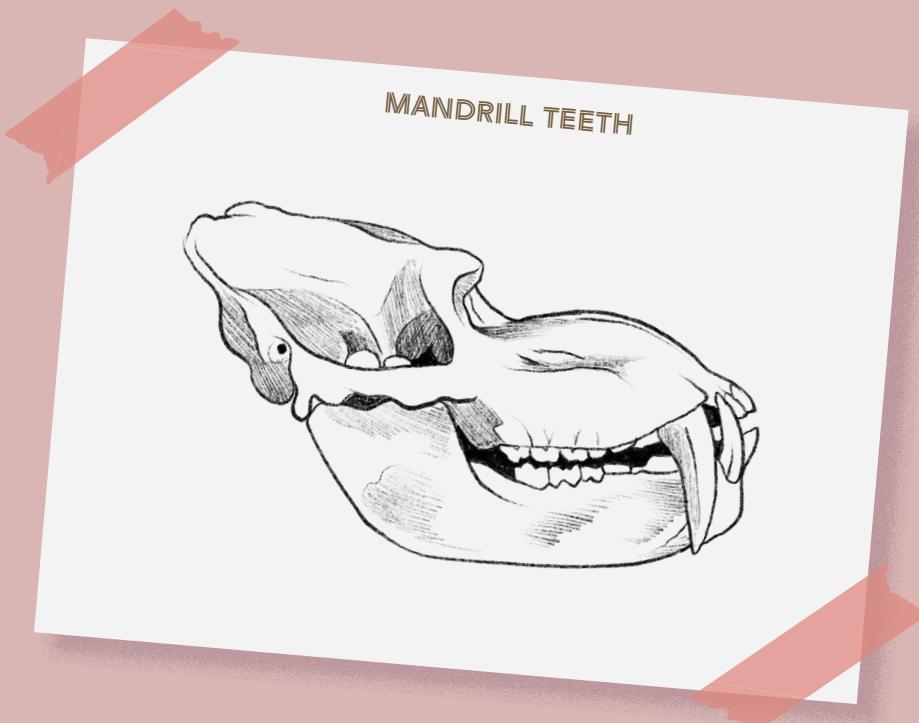
Grooming

The man·drill on the left is groom·ing the male with the red nose. She is look·ing for ticks and bugs. Man·drills like groom·ing be·cause it makes them look good and feel good, too.

The mandrill on the left is grooming the male mandrill with the red nose.



Look! One of the man·drills is yawn·ing! You can see that she has long, sharp teeth. Those sharp teeth help her chop up her food.





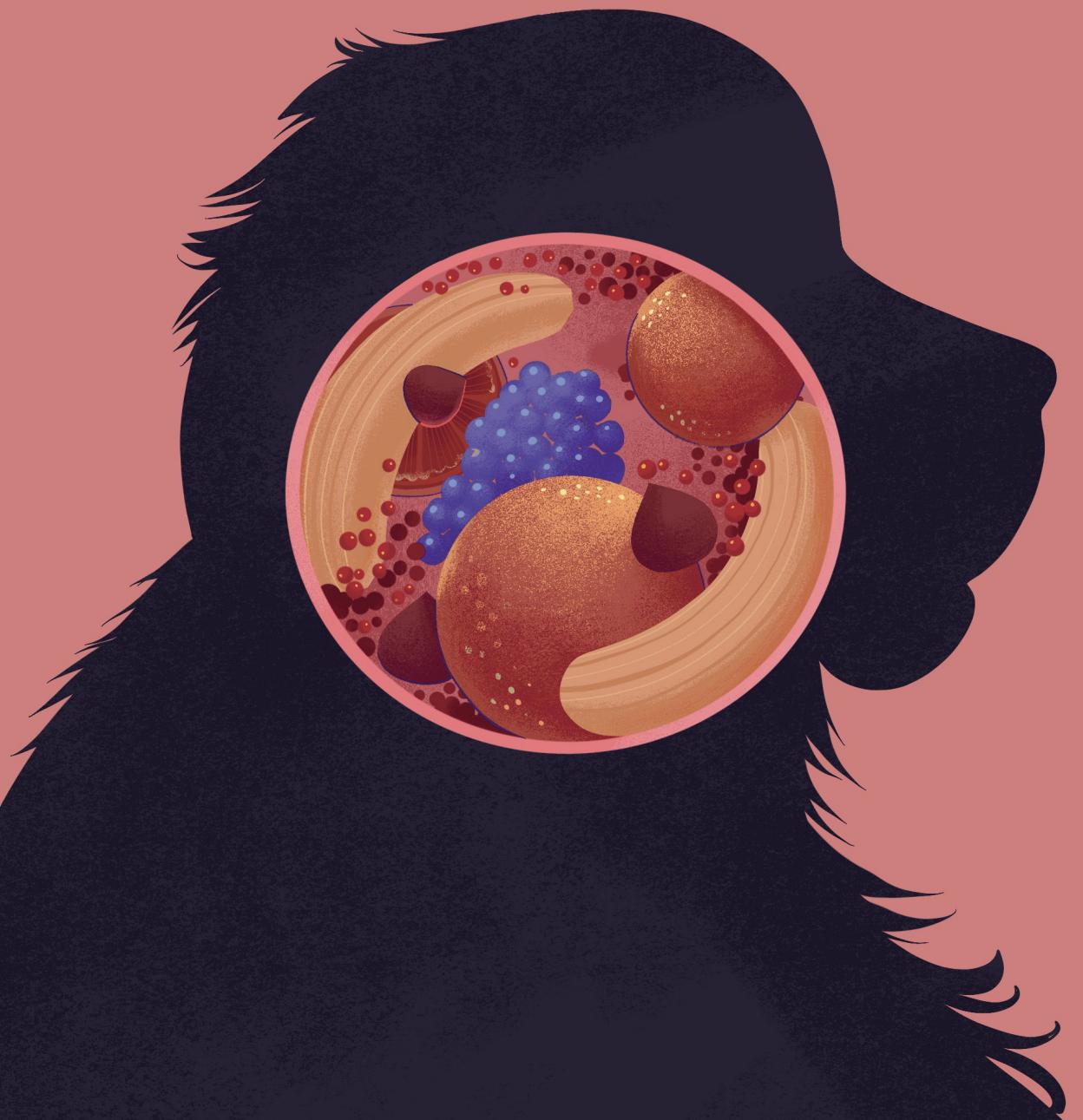
Mandrills have long, sharp teeth.

Food Mandrills Like

Man·drills like a lot of foods. We feed our man·drills ants, grass, nuts, bark, plant shoots, and roots.

Man·drills have sacks in·side their cheeks. They can stuff food in the sacks and keep it there un·til they need a snack. Then they pop the food out and munch on it!





Mandrills can keep food inside their cheeks in sacks.

CHAPTER 5

Things with Wings

Next, let's see some things with wings.



Puffins

This is a puffin. He makes his home up north, not too far from the North Pole.

What Puffins Look Like

Look at those cute feet! But they are not just cute. The puffin's feet help him swim.

Note, as well, his big bill. The puffin can use his bill to get fish.

Puffins make their home by the North Pole.



How Puffins Are Born

Puffins are born from eggs. The puffin mom and dad sit on their egg. The mom sits. Then the dad sits. In the end, the chick pops out of the shell. The mom and dad take care of the chick until it can care for it-self. Look! That puffin has fish in her bill! She will feed those fish to her chick.



The mom puffin will feed fish to her chick.



The Finch

In this next room, we have a finch. Unlike the puffin, the finch makes a home in woodlands. He can use his bill to snap up grass seeds **for** food.

I'm sad to tell you that the finch is getting to be quite rare. We are proud to have five of them here at the Green Fern Zoo.





The finch makes its home in the woods.

CHAPTER 6

Big Cats

Do you like cats? If you do, look there in the grass. Do you see the cat?



Bobcats

That is not the sort of cat that you keep in your home and feed cat food. That is a bob-cat. Bob-cats are not tame.

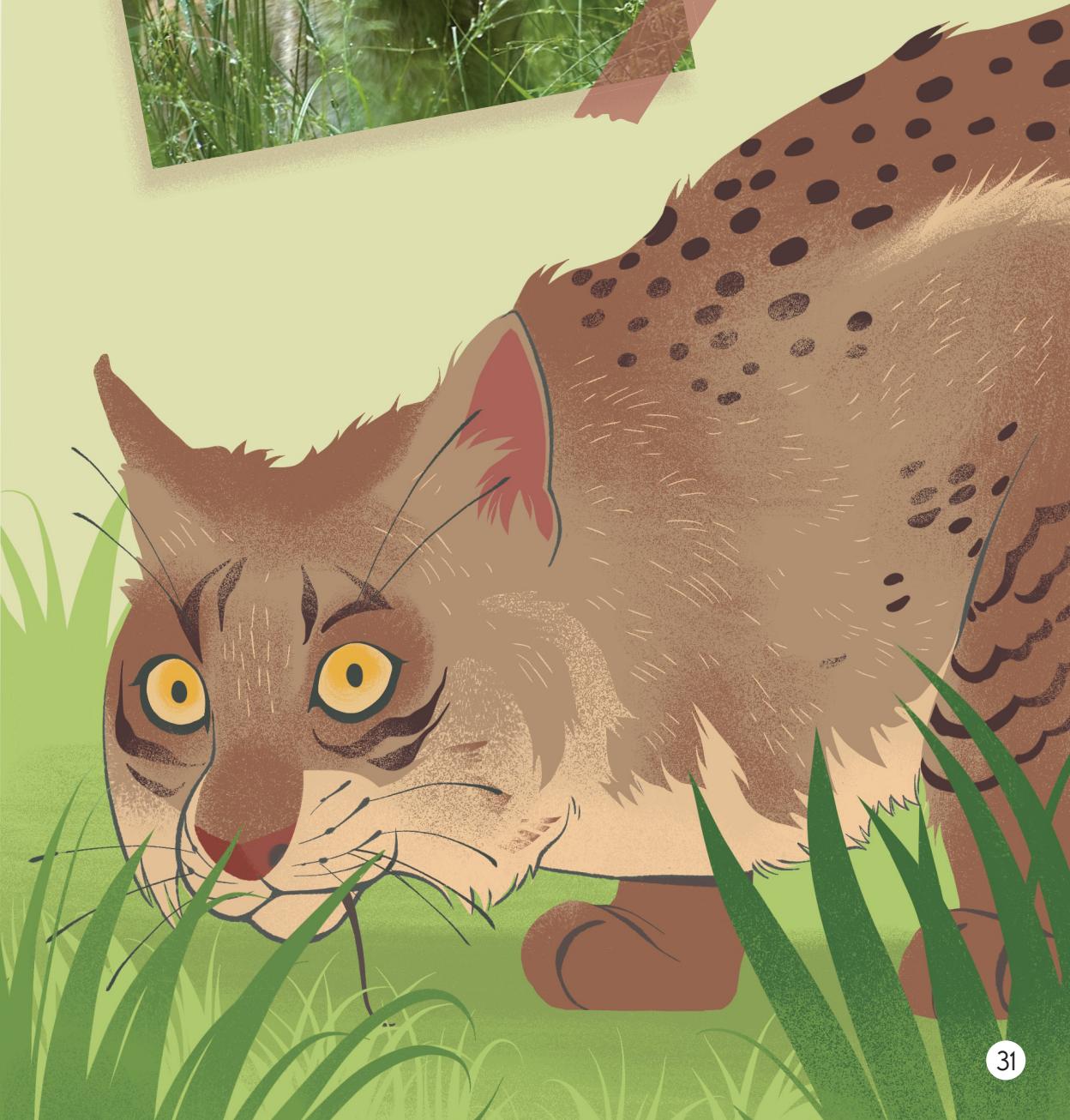
Food Bobcats Like

Bob-cats are good hunt·ers. They hunt rabb·its, rats, and some·times deer and sheep.

That bob-cat's name is Rob·ert, or Bob for short. Get it?



Bobcats are not tame.

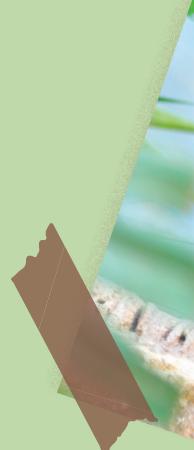


Panthers

If you look up on that rock, you will see a cat that's **bigg·er** than a bob·cat. It's a pan·ther.

What Panthers Look Like

Pan·thers can have spots. They can be tan, too. Here at the Green Fern Zoo, we have two black pan·thers. The name of this one is Jet.





Panthers are bigger than bobcats.



That's Jet's sister, Flash, up on the tree branch. Flash has strong legs that help **her** run fast. She has **sharp** teeth and **sharp** claws that help **her** hunt rabbits and deer. She can use **her** claws to **scamper** up a tree if she needs to.

You can see that she is not all black like Jet. She has some spots.

A stylized illustration of a panther climbing a tree. The panther is black with a pattern of white, irregular, swirling shapes. It is shown from the side, its front paws gripping a brown, textured branch. Its long, bushy tail is coiled around the branch. The background is a light green color with stylized, rounded shapes resembling leaves or clouds.

Panthers use their strong legs and sharp claws to get up trees.

CHAPTER 7

Groundhogs

What Groundhogs Look Like

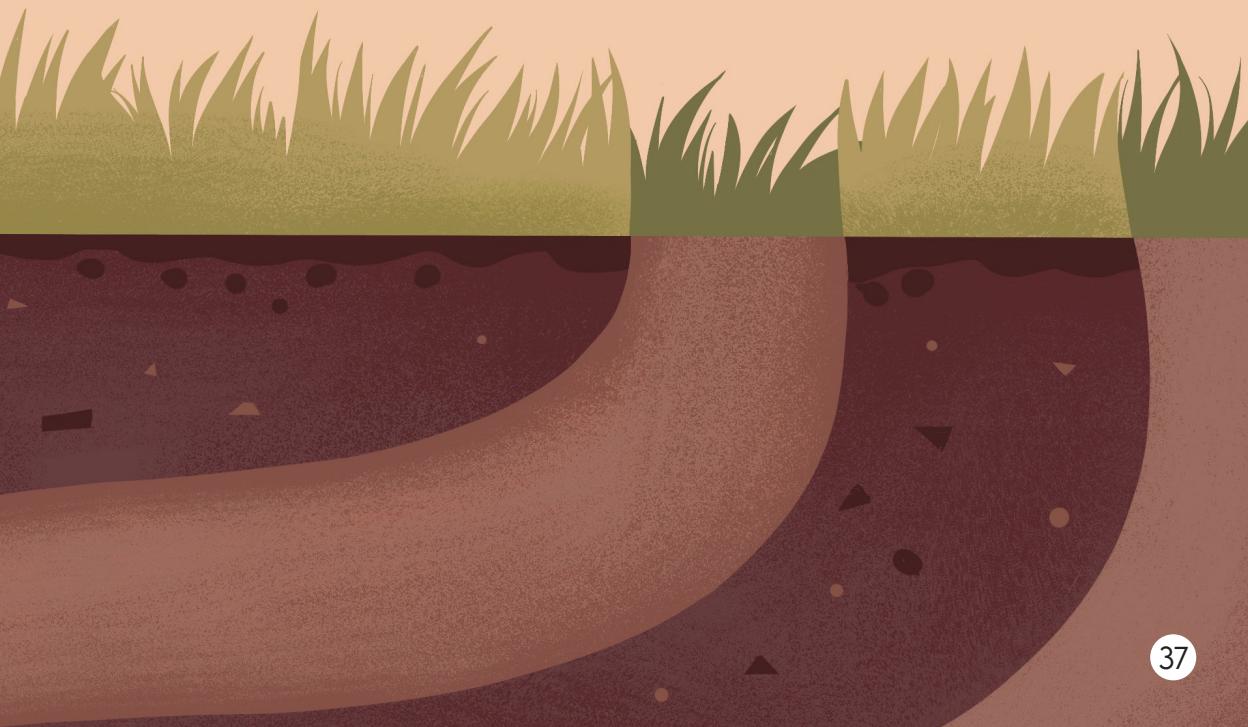
Here you can see a groundhog.

Groundhogs have sharp claws that help them dig holes in the ground. They spend a lot of time down in those dark holes.





Groundhogs make their home in holes in the ground.



Food Groundhogs Like

Ground-hogs like to feed on grass and plants. But when they run out of their holes to get food, they have to be on the look-out. Some critt-ers, like bob-cats and snakes, like to dine on ground-hogs. This ground-hog here is sitt-ing up to see if there is a snake **or** a bob-cat close by.

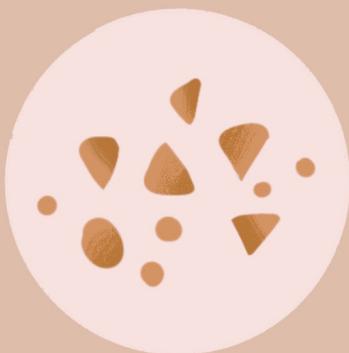
This groundhog is on the lookout for bobcats and snakes.



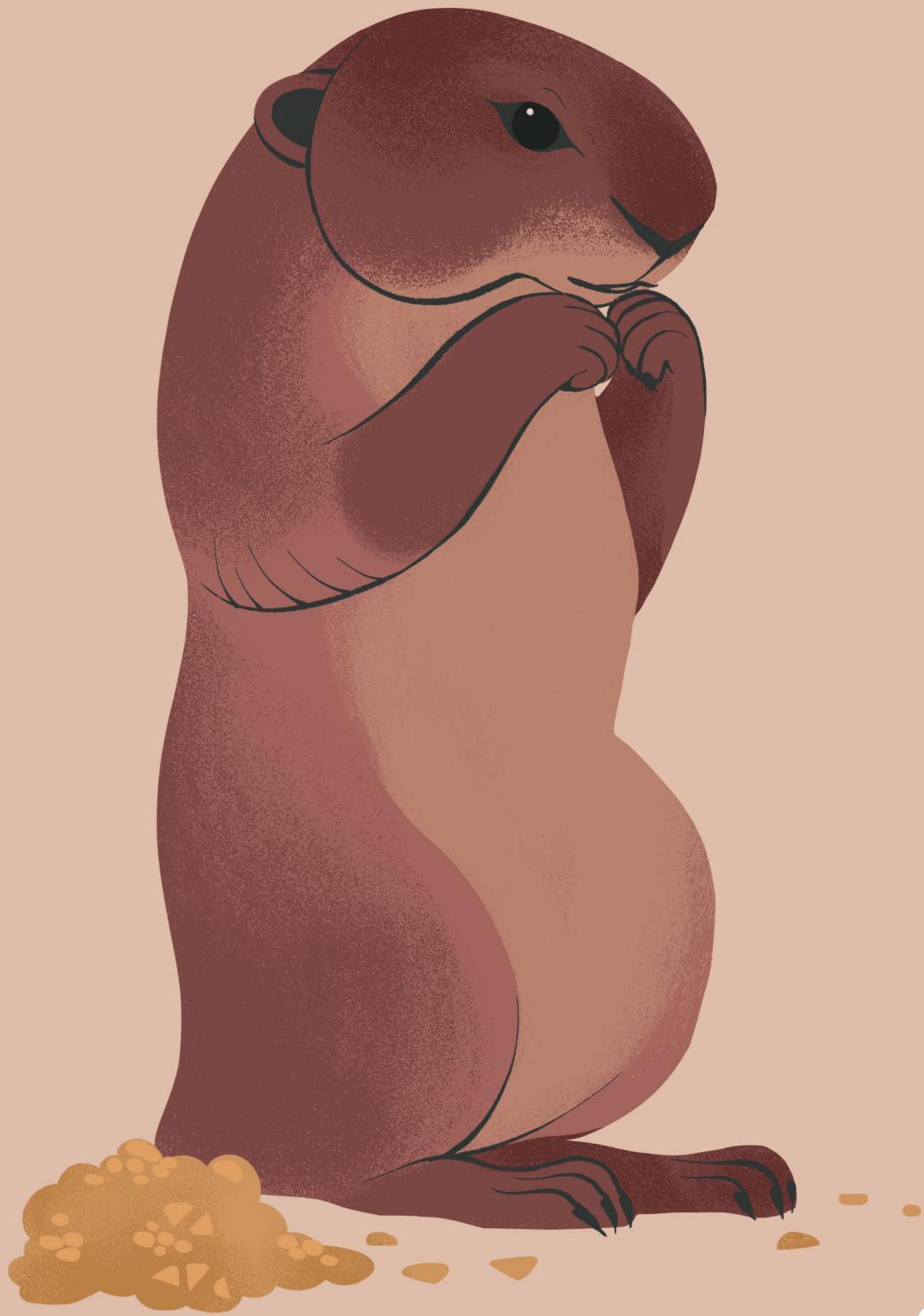
More Food Groundhogs Like

This ground-hog is named Pepp-er. We feed her grass, tree bark, and insects, but the food that she likes best is corn. We found that out yes-ter-day morning when she got out from her pen.

We found her in the petting zoo. She ate a lot of the corn that was there for the ducks and hens.



Groundhogs like to munch on grass, tree bark, insects, and corn.



CHAPTER 8

The Reptile Room

Who likes snakes? Hands up if you like them!

Some kids like snakes best of all, and some kids can't stand them. If you do not like snakes, you can skip this next room because it is the reptile room.





At the zoo, snakes make their home in the Reptile Room.

Garter Snakes

This is a **gar·ter** snake. **Gar·ter** snakes feed on slugs, in·sects, and frogs. **For** those critters, the **gar·ter** snake is a **kill·er**. But **for** us, it is **harm·less**. A **gar·ter** snake could bite you, but its bite would not make you sick.





Garter snakes are harmless.

Rattlers

This is a rattler. He is a desert dweller that hunts for rats and rabbits. He has a pattern on his scales that helps him blend in and hide in the desert sands. When the rattler is hidden, it is hard for rats and rabbits to see him.





The pattern on the rattler's scales
helps it hide in the desert.



A ratt·ler is not harm·less like a gar·ter snake. If you ev·er see this snake hiss·ing and coil·ing up, you bett·er stand back and let it be. The ratt·ler has sharp fangs, and a bite from a ratt·ler could kill you. But we are safe here in the rep·tile room. There is a sheet of glass keep·ing us safe from the snakes.





A bite from a rattler can be harmful.

CHAPTER 9

Termites

Food Termites Like

What do you kids like to have for lunch? Hot dogs? Chicken nuggets?

What if I gave you a lump of wood **or** a big tree stump for lunch? Would you like that?

Well, if you were a **ter**·mite, you would like it. **Ter**·mites are in·sects that like to munch on wood.



Termites are insects that like to munch on wood.

A Termite Home

See this big spike sticking up from the ground? It looks sort of like a rock, but it is a **ter**·mite mound. If you could look in·side, you would see lots of **ter**·mites.





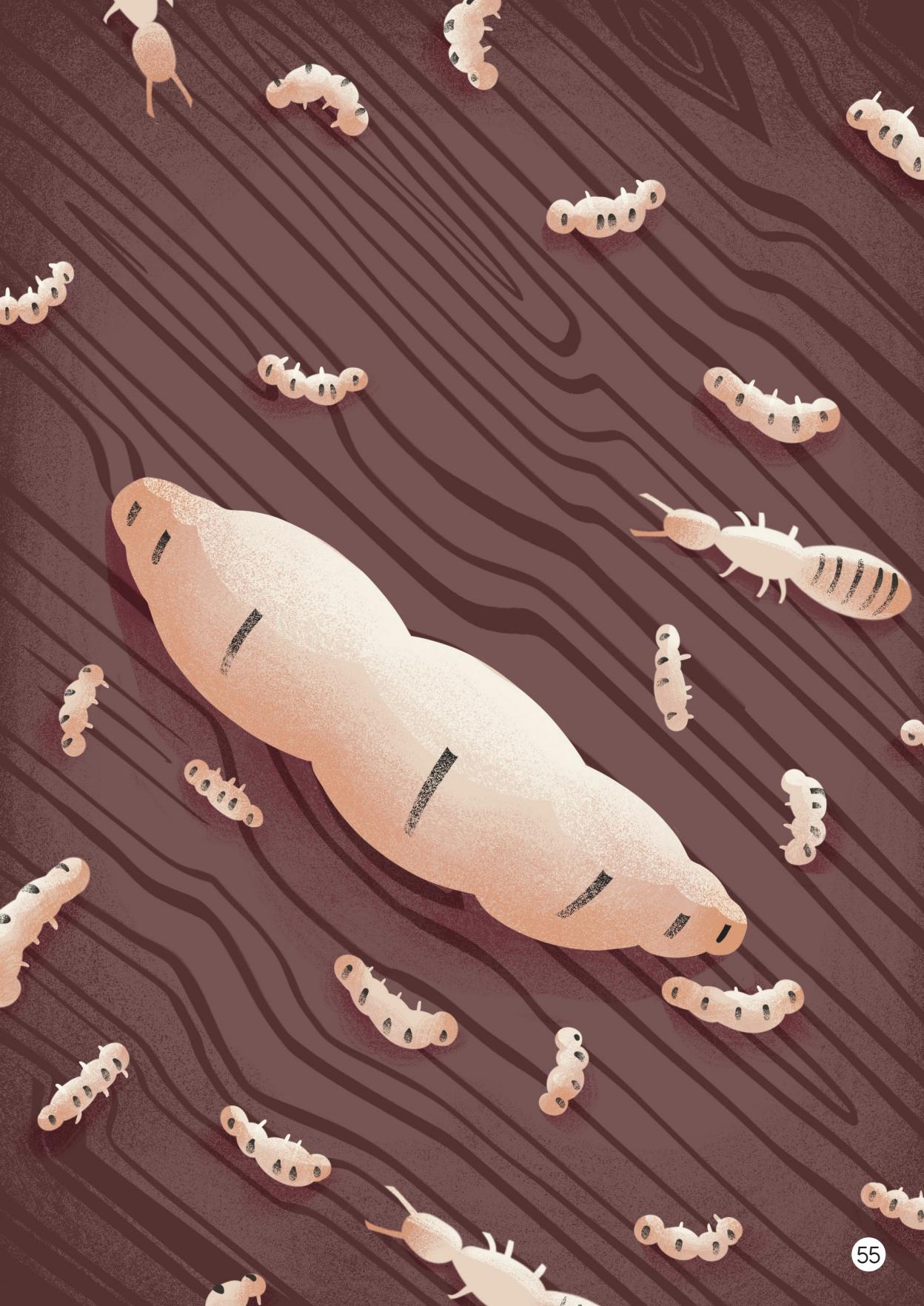
Termites make their home in this mound.

What Termites Look Like

If you would like to see what ter·mites look like, take a peek in this box.

As you can see, ter·mites look a lot like ants. They have six legs like ants. A ter·mite mound has a queen who makes eggs, just like in an ant·hill. Here you can see that the ter·mite queen is much bigg·er than the rest of the ter·mites.

Would a ter·mite munch on your home? It would if your home is made of wood. The ter·mites from a big mound could have your liv·ing room for lunch and your bed·room for dinn·er!



River Otters

What River Otters Like To Do

Do you like to run and jump?
Do you like to chase your pals? Do you like to splash in the pool in the summ-er? Do you like to slide down hills in the win-ter?

Well, if you like to do those things, you would make a good ott-er! You can see three of our riv-er ott-ers up on the rocks: Al-ex, All-en, and Ag-nes. That's Al-ex up on top of All-en. The last one is Ag-nes.



What River Otters Look Like

Ott·ers have short, strong legs with webbed paws and sharp claws. The webb·ing helps the ott·ers swim fast and get their food. Riv·er ott·ers hunt for fish, frogs, and crabs.

River Otter Homes

When it is time for bed, the riv·er ott·ers scam·per to their den. They have nests on land that are lined with grass, moss, and bark.



River otters have short legs with webbed paws and short claws.



CHAPTER 11

Cranes and Spoonbills

Sandhill Cranes

Here you can see two sand-hill cranes.

A sand-hill crane has long legs, a dark, pointed bill, and a red spot next to its bill. Sand-hill cranes are found in wet-lands. They like to hunt for frogs, snakes, and insects.



Sandhill cranes have long legs, a pointed bill, and a red spot next to the bill.



Sandhill Chicks

Those are sandhill cranes, too. In fact, that's a mom and a dad with their chicks. Before sandhill cranes have chicks, the mom and dad make a nest. The mom sits on the eggs **for** 4 weeks until the chicks are **born**.



A sandhill mom
and dad look for
food with their
chicks.

Spoonbill Cranes

That's a spoon-bill. He has that name because his bill is shaped like a spoon.

The spoon-bill wades in pools to get his food. He swings his bill back and forth. If he feels an insect swimming inside his bill, he snaps it shut.

When spoon-bills have chicks, they make a nest. When the chicks are born, they can't see. The mom and dad have to care for them until they can see.



CHAPTER 12

The Ostrich

This is an os-trich. He is a big one. He tips the scales at close to two hundred pounds.

An os-trich has wings that it can flap, but it can't get off the ground. Still, an os-trich can run fast on land. It can run as fast as a car!

If it gets mad, an os-trich can kick you. My pal Fred here at the zoo got kicked by an os-trich. The os-trich broke Fred's leg in three spots! Ouch!

An ostrich has a long neck and is big.



Deer

Look there! Do you see the two deer in the woods? The one who is looking at us is named Hope.

Hope was not born in this zoo. I found her by my home one morning after a storm. A tree fell on her and broke her leg. She could not stand up.

I drove her here and the vet fixed up her leg. We named her Hope and found a spot for her in the zoo. To-day her leg is fine and she is as strong as ev-er.

Deer make their home in the woods.



CHAPTER 14

The Petting Zoo

Well, kids, the last thing that you all get to see is the petting zoo.

You can't pet the ostrich, the otters, or the spoon-bills. And it would not be wise to pet the panther or the bob-cat! But in this part of the zoo, you can pet all of the critters.



This rabbit's name is Hoss. He likes it when you rub his neck.



Here are two chickens. They like it when you toss them seed corn.

You can pet the chickens, too. But some-times they get scared. It's best if you do not run up to them be-cause running scares them.



You can feed corn to chickens in the petting zoo.

There's Pam, our pet pig. You can pet her, too. Pam likes to be petted.

Well, kids, that's it for me. I hope you had a good time at the zoo today. I had fun pointing out some of the critters that I like best.

I hope some of you can visit with your moms and dads. There is so much to see here at the Green Fern Zoo. You could visit us five times and still see lots of cool things!





You can even pet pigs in the petting zoo.





Glossary

Chapter 1: Meet Vern



zoo

p.2



fern

p.2



scales

p.2



sting

p.2



creep

p.2

Chapter 2: Things that Swim



creek

p.4



bed of a creek

p.4

wee
big

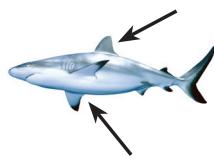
wee

p.6



reef

p.6



fins

p.8



gills

p.8



squid

p.8

Chapter 3: Chimps



chimps

p.10



look hard

p.10



munch

p.10



ant hill

p.12



babe

p.14



fig

p.16

Chapter 4: Mandrills



mandrill

p.18



male



female



grooming

p.18



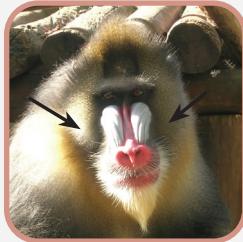
ticks

p.18



plant shoots

p.22



sacks

p.22

Chapter 5: Things with Wings



puffin

p.24



bill

p.24



finch

p.28



woodlands

p.28

Chapter 6: Big Cats



bobcat

p.30



tame

p.30

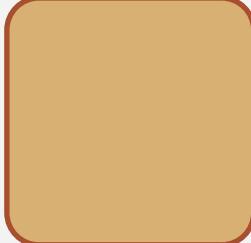


not tame



panther

p.32



tan

p.32

Chapter 7: Groundhogs



groundhog

p.36



critters

p.38



to be on the lookout

p.38



insects

p.40



pen

p.40

Chapter 8: The Reptile Room



reptile

p.42



garter snake

p.44



rattler

p.46



scales

p.46



desert

p.46



desert dweller

p.46



coiling up

p.48

Chapter 9: Termites



termite

p.50



stump

p.50



spike

p.52



termite mound

p.52



queen

p.54

Chapter 10: River Otters



otter

p.56



webbed

p.58



webbed paws

p.58



den

p.58



moss

p.58



bark

p.58

Chapter 11: Cranes and Spoonbills



sandhill cranes

p.60



wetlands

p.60



chicks

p.62



spoonbill crane

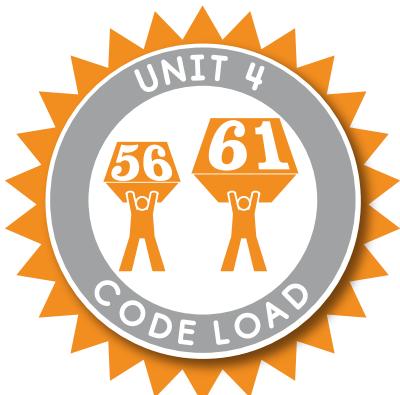
p.64

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 chapter of the book and the number of spellings students are expected to know in order to read the final chapters 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:	CONSONANT SOUNDS AND SPELLINGS:	
/i/ as in <u>skim</u>	/m/ as in <u>swim</u> , <u>swimming</u>	/ch/ as in <u>chin</u>
/e/ as in <u>bed</u>	/n/ as in <u>run</u> , <u>running</u>	/sh/ as in <u>shop</u>
/a/ as in <u>tap</u>	/t/ as in <u>bat</u> , <u>batting</u>	/th/ as in <u>then</u>
/u/ as in <u>up</u>	/d/ as in <u>big</u> , <u> bidding</u>	/th/ as in <u>thin</u>
/o/ as in <u>flop</u>	/k/ as in <u>cot</u> , <u>kid</u> , <u>rock</u> , <u>soccer</u>	/ng/ as in <u>king</u>
/ee/ as in <u>bee</u>	/g/ as in <u>log</u> , <u>logging</u>	/qu/ as in <u>quit</u>
/ae/ as in <u>cake</u>	/f/ as in <u>fat</u> , <u>huff</u>	
/ie/ as in <u>bite</u>	/s/ as in <u>sit</u> , <u>hiss</u>	OTHER:
/oe/ as in <u>home</u>	/z/ as in <u>zip</u> , <u>hums</u> , <u>buzz</u>	
/ue/ as in <u>cute</u>	/v/ as in <u>yet</u>	• Punctuation (period, comma, quotation marks, question mark, exclamation point, apostrophe)
/oo/ as in <u>soon</u>	/p/ as in <u>tip</u> , <u>tipping</u>	
/oo/ as in <u>look</u>	/b/ as in <u>rub</u> , <u>rubbing</u>	
/ou/ as in <u>shout</u>	/l/ as in <u>lamp</u> , <u>fill</u>	
/oi/ as in <u>oil</u>	/r/ as in <u>rip</u> , <u>ferret</u>	TRICKY WORDS:
/aw/ as in <u>paw</u>	/h/ as in <u>ham</u>	
	/w/ as in <u>wet</u>	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, because, could, would, should, down
	/j/ as in <u>jog</u>	
	/y/ as in <u>yes</u>	
	/x/ as in <u>box</u>	

Code Knowledge added gradually in the unit for this Reader:

- Beginning with "Meet Vern": the sound /er/ spelled 'er' as in her
- Beginning with "Things That Swim": the sound /ar/ spelled 'ar' as in car
- Beginning with "Chimps": the sound /or/ spelled 'or' as in for
- Beginning with "Mandrills": two-syllable words
- Beginning with "Groundhogs": Tricky Word yesterday; /t/ as in asked, /d/ as in filled
- Beginning with "Deer": Tricky Word today

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