



Oxford Read and Imagine

Danger! Bugs!

By Paul Shipton Illustrated by Matteo Piana

One day, Rosie, Ben, and his friend Max got very small – as small as bugs! This was a great way to study minibeasts, but now his backyard was full of danger: ladybugs, spider webs, and birds.

Word count for this story: 1,050 words

Read and Imagine provides great stories to read and enjoy, with language support, activities, and projects. Follow Rosie, Ben, and Grandpa on their exciting adventures ...

Series Consultant: Paul Shipton

Early Starter 150 headwords	Starter 150 headwords	Beginner 150 headwords
Level 1 300 headwords	Level 2 450 headwords	
Level 3 ✓ 600 headwords	Level 4 750 headwords	
Level 5 900 headwords	Level 6 1,050 headwords	

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Oxford Read and Imagine

Danger! Bugs!



Meet the Characters

Hello! My name is Rosie.
This is my brother.

Hi! I'm Ben.
This is Grandpa.

And here's Grandpa's
fantastic van.

It can go anywhere!

Grandpa
Ben and Rosie's
grandfather

Mom
Ben and Rosie's
mother

Josh and Aunt Val

Ben and Rosie's little cousin, with his mom

Clunk
Grandpa's robot

Max
Ben's friend



Now enjoy this story,
Danger! Bugs!

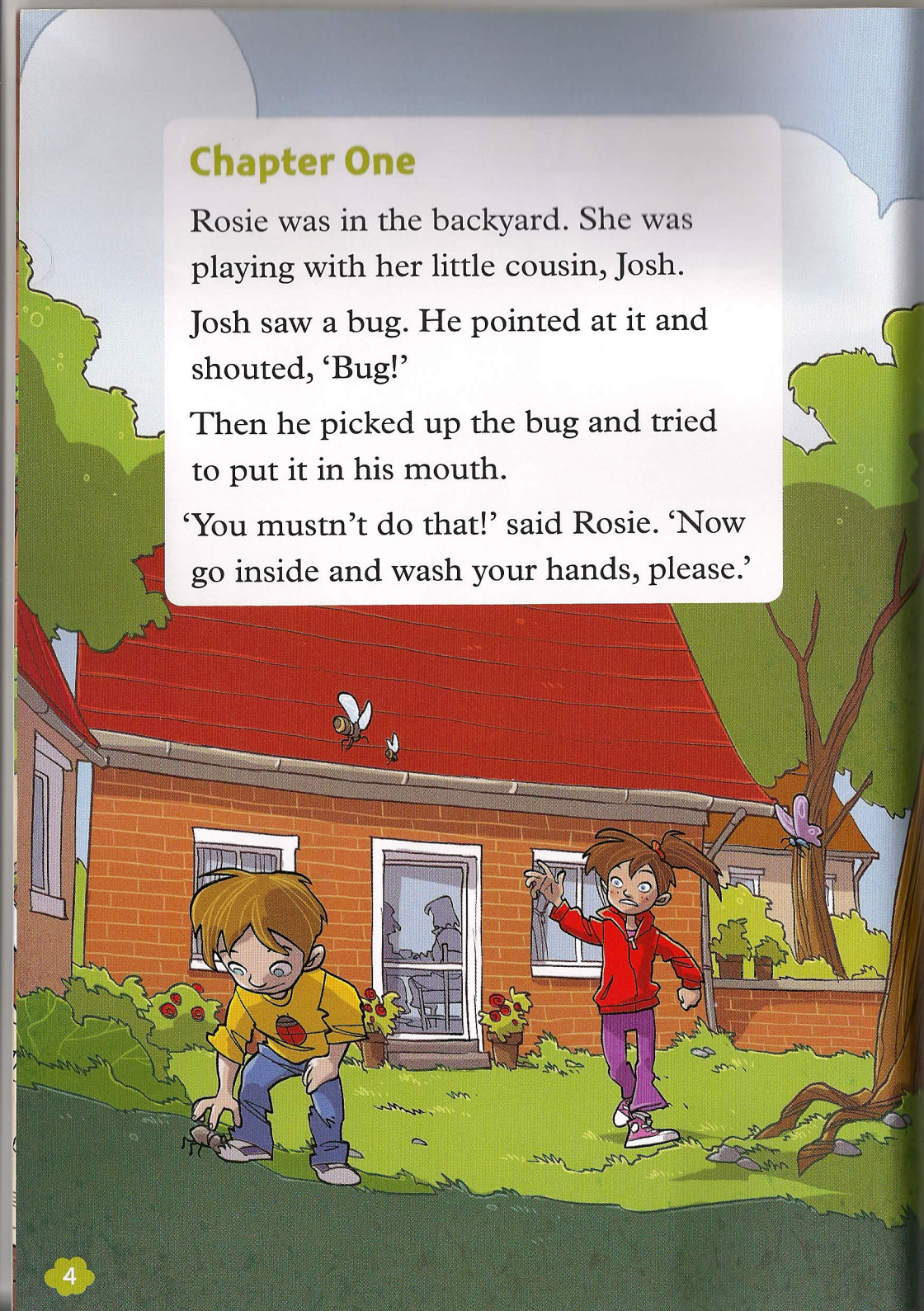
Chapter One

Rosie was in the backyard. She was playing with her little cousin, Josh.

Josh saw a bug. He pointed at it and shouted, 'Bug!'

Then he picked up the bug and tried to put it in his mouth.

'You mustn't do that!' said Rosie. 'Now go inside and wash your hands, please.'



Ben and Max came to the backyard.

'We're going to study minibeasts with Grandpa!' said Ben happily. 'Come with us, Rosie!'

Rosie wasn't sure. 'I don't really like bugs,' she said.

'You like butterflies and ladybugs,' said Max.

'And look – Josh is playing inside now,' said Ben.

'OK,' said Rosie. 'Let's go!'

Soon the children were in Grandpa's van.

'Let's go, Clunk!' said Grandpa.

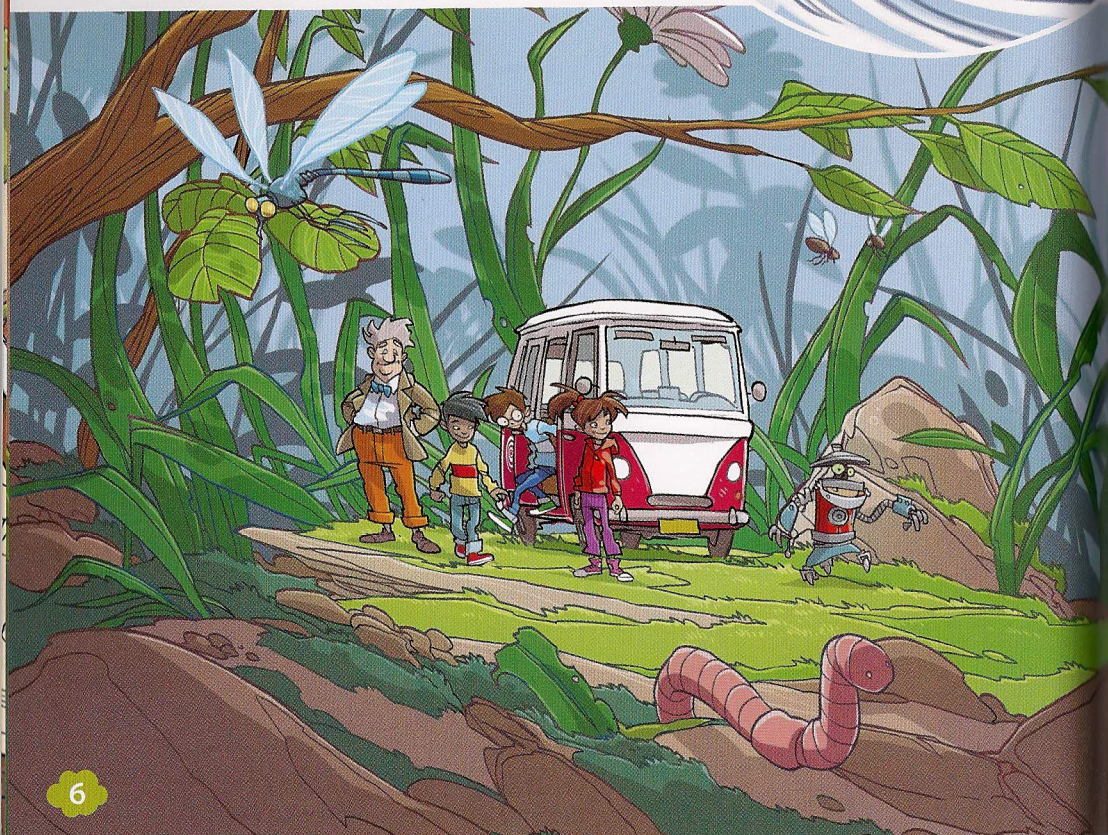
Clunk pushed a button and
the van started to move.

It got smaller and smaller.

When the van stopped,
there were tall flowers
and grass above it.

'We're here!' said Grandpa.

'And we're as small as bugs!'



'I want to study ants,' said Grandpa. 'Clunk, find
some ants for me, please.'

'Look!' Rosie shouted happily. 'There's a ladybug!'

'Don't shout!' said Ben. 'Ladybugs like eating
little bugs. It may want to eat us!'



Chapter Two

‘Hide!’ said Grandpa.

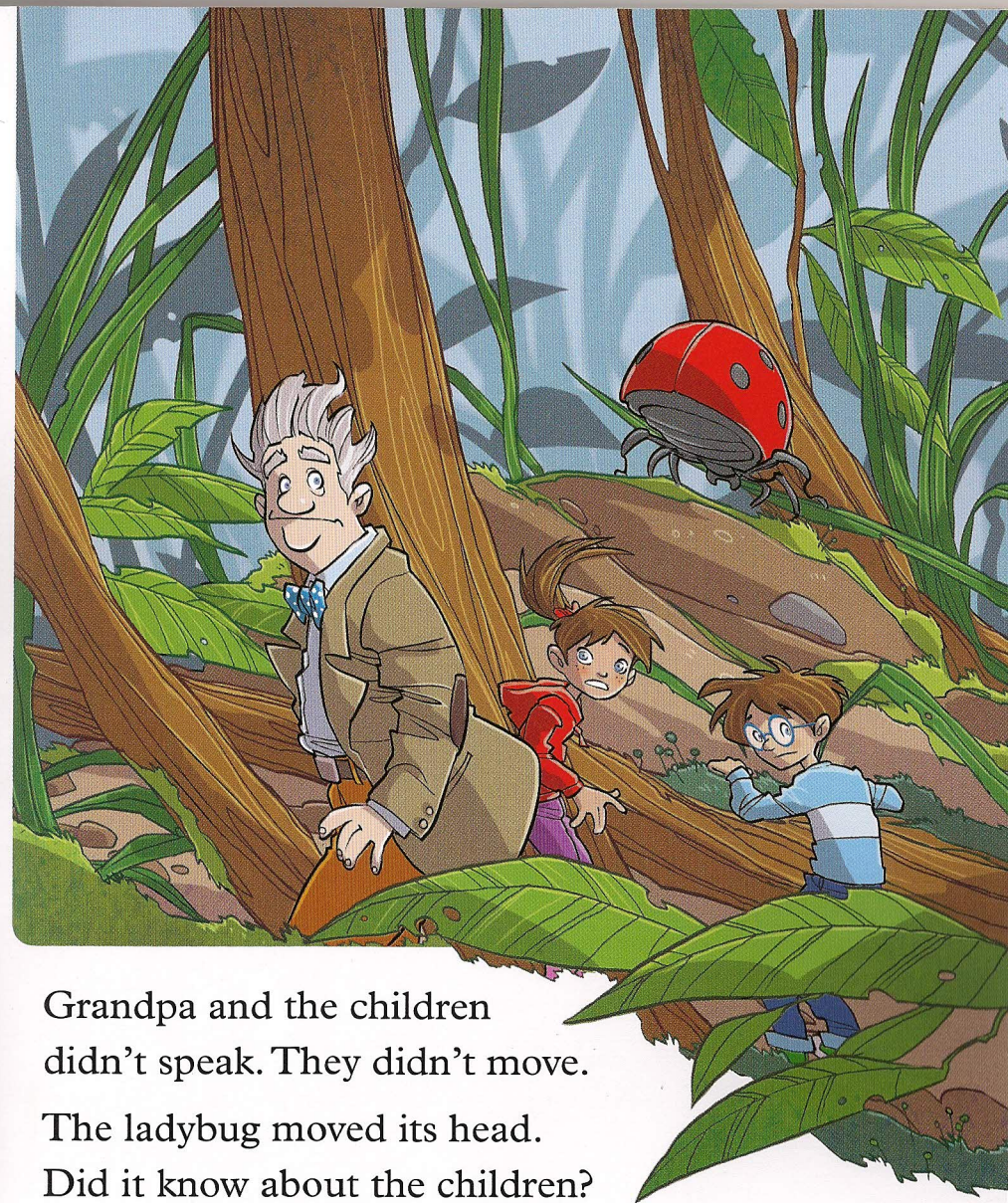
Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa went behind a plant to hide.

‘But ladybugs are nice,’ said Rosie.

‘They’re red and pretty!’

‘They’re red so birds don’t eat them,’ said Ben. ‘That color is a sign – ladybugs are bad to eat!’

When the ladybug was close to the plant, it stopped.



Grandpa and the children didn’t speak. They didn’t move.

The ladybug moved its head. Did it know about the children? Could it see them?

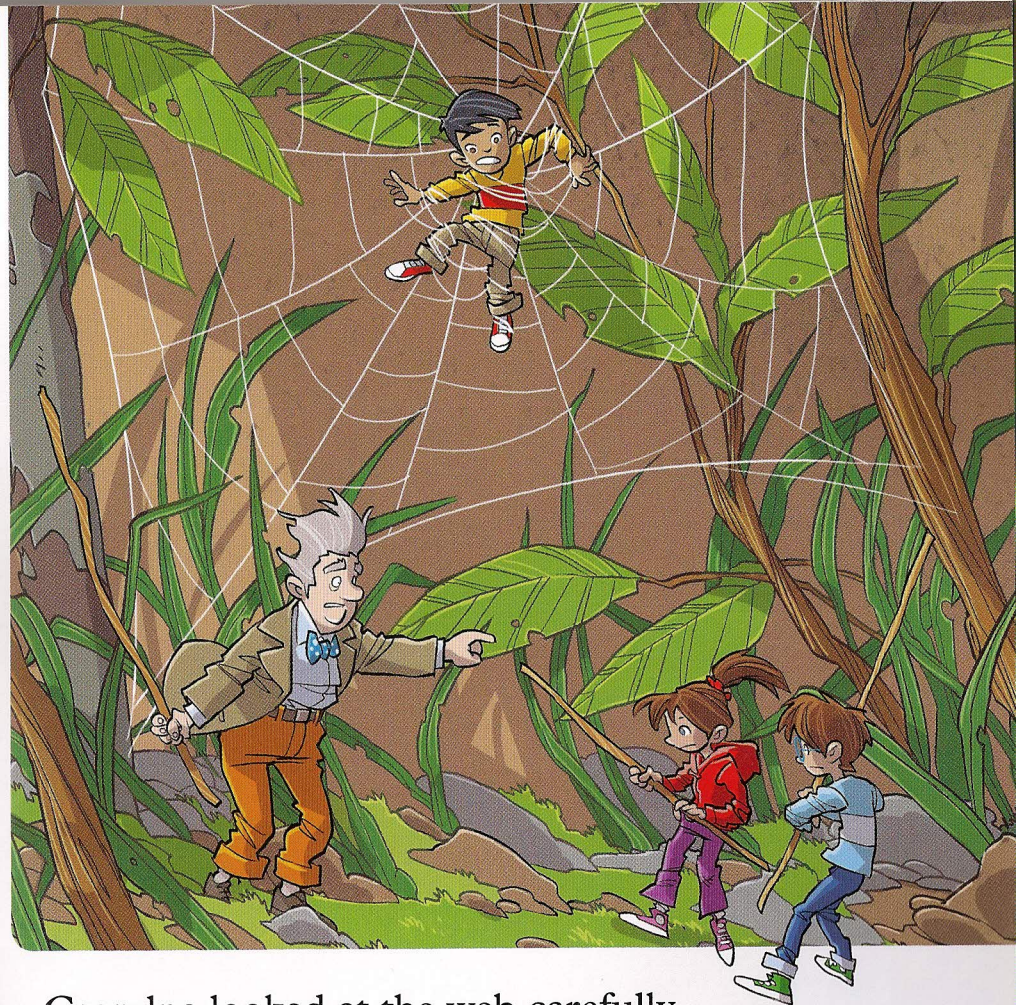
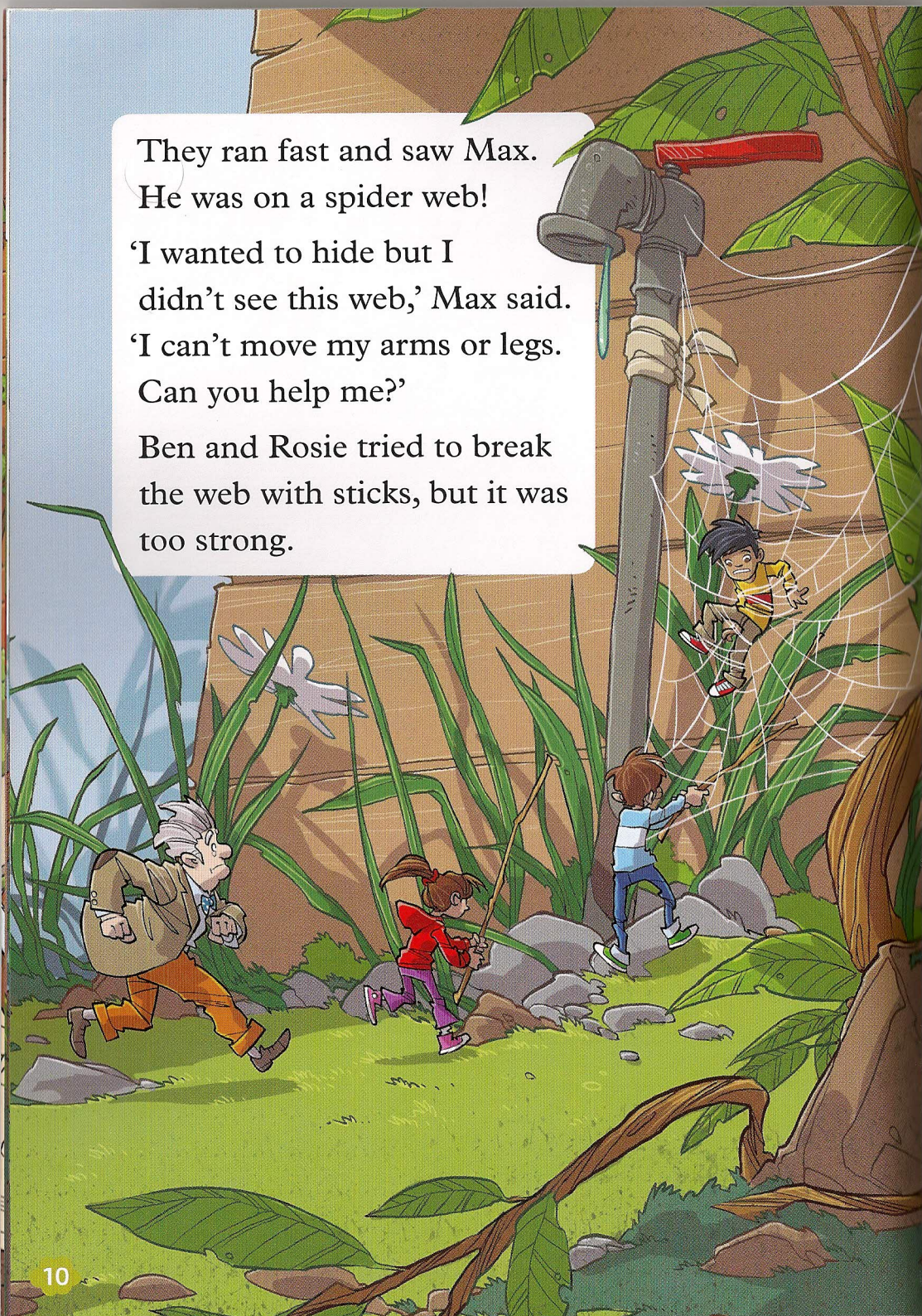
After a long time, it started to move again.

Grandpa smiled. ‘It’s going,’ he said. ‘We’re OK.’ Suddenly they heard a shout: ‘Help!’

They ran fast and saw Max.
He was on a spider web!

‘I wanted to hide but I
didn’t see this web,’ Max said.
‘I can’t move my arms or legs.
Can you help me?’

Ben and Rosie tried to break
the web with sticks, but it was
too strong.



Grandpa looked at the web carefully.

‘We need Clunk,’ he said. ‘He can cut this web.’

Grandpa picked up a stick. ‘Ben and Rosie, go
and find Clunk and the van. But be careful!
I can stay here.’

‘Why do you need that stick?’ asked Max.

‘What makes webs?’ said Grandpa.

Max knew the answer to that – **SPIDERS!**



Chapter Three

Ben and Rosie started to run.

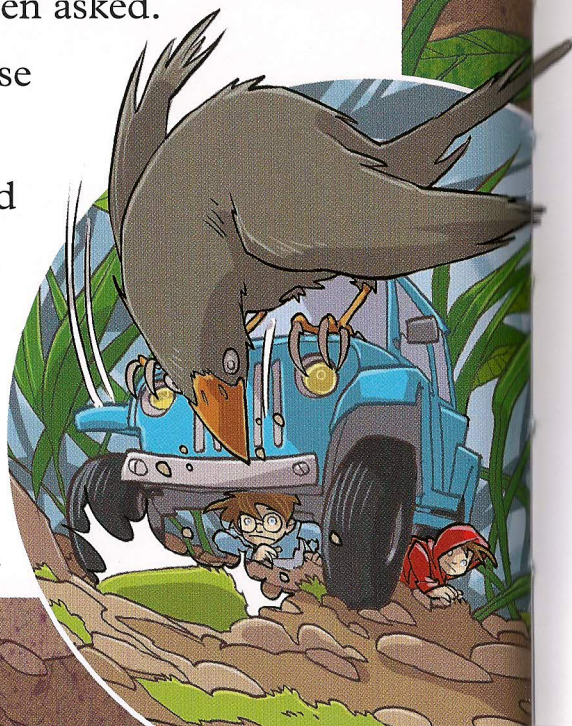
‘Can you see the van?’ Ben asked.

‘Yes,’ said Rosie. ‘It’s close to those flowers.’

Suddenly a shape moved above them.

‘Oh no! It’s a bird!’ shouted Ben.

Quickly they jumped under a toy car before the bird could eat them.



The children looked out carefully.

‘Can you see the bird?’ asked Rosie.

‘Yes,’ answered Ben. ‘It’s sitting on that wall. Maybe it’s waiting for us!’

Rosie looked at the van. ‘How can we find Clunk with that hungry bird there?’

She stopped. ‘Wait! I have an idea ...’



‘That bird tried to eat you, not me!’ said Rosie. ‘It didn’t want to eat me because I’m wearing this red sweater!’

Ben looked at his sister’s sweater. ‘Yes!’ he said. ‘Your sweater is as red as a ladybug. The bird doesn’t want to eat you!’

‘Stay here, Ben,’ said Rosie. ‘I can get Clunk.’

Rosie started to run.

Ben was scared. He didn’t stop watching the bird on the wall. When the bird saw Rosie, it moved its head. But Rosie was right. It didn’t try to eat her!

Soon Rosie was close to the van.

‘Clunk!’ she shouted. ‘Stop looking for ants and come with us!’



Chapter Four

At the spider web, Max was getting more and more scared.

‘What’s that?’ he asked Grandpa.

Grandpa turned and saw a big spider coming.

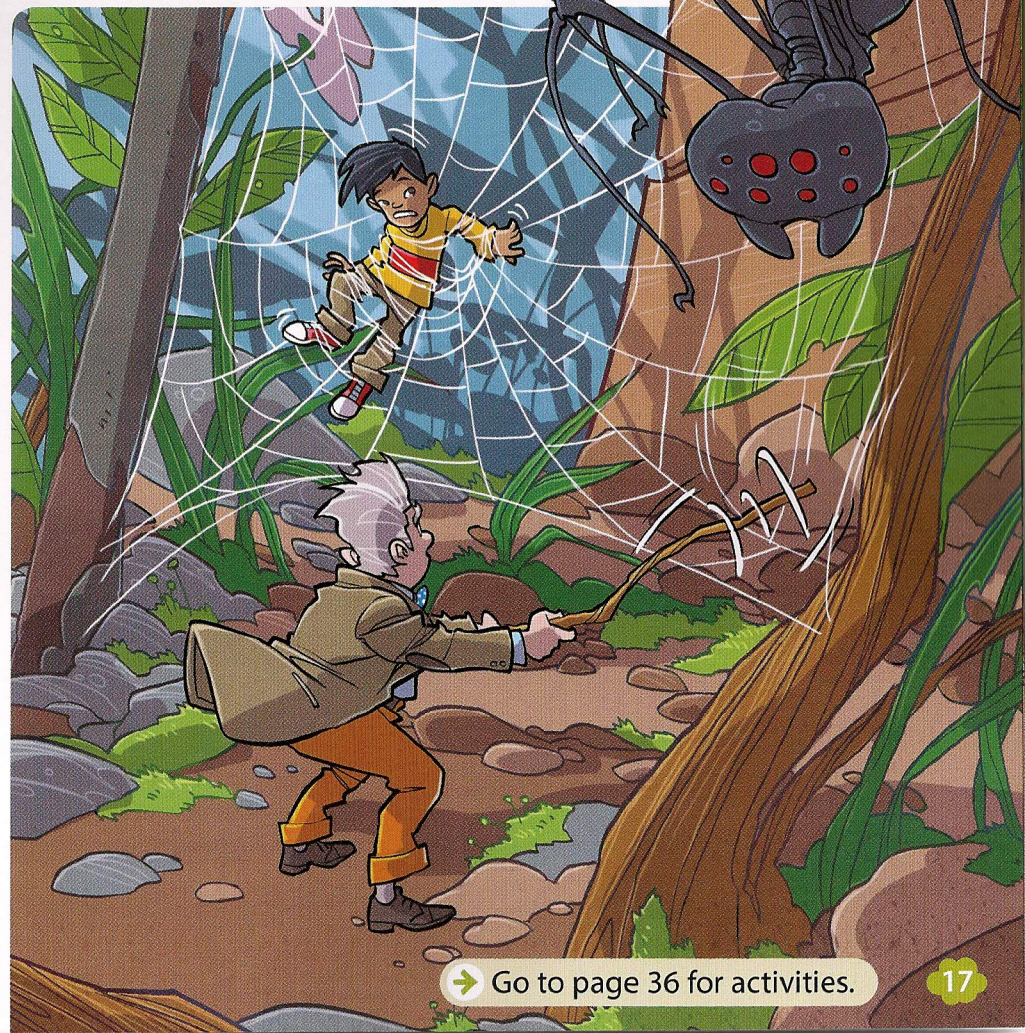
It started to move across the web.

‘Don’t move!’ Grandpa said to Max. ‘When you move the web, the spider can feel it.’

Grandpa put the stick into the web and moved it quickly up and down.

The spider stopped and then ran at the stick. When it couldn’t find a bug, it looked at Max.

Max could see its eight eyes looking at him.



Grandpa went quickly to a different part of the web. Again he used the stick to move the web. But this time the spider didn't run at the stick. It wanted to eat Max!

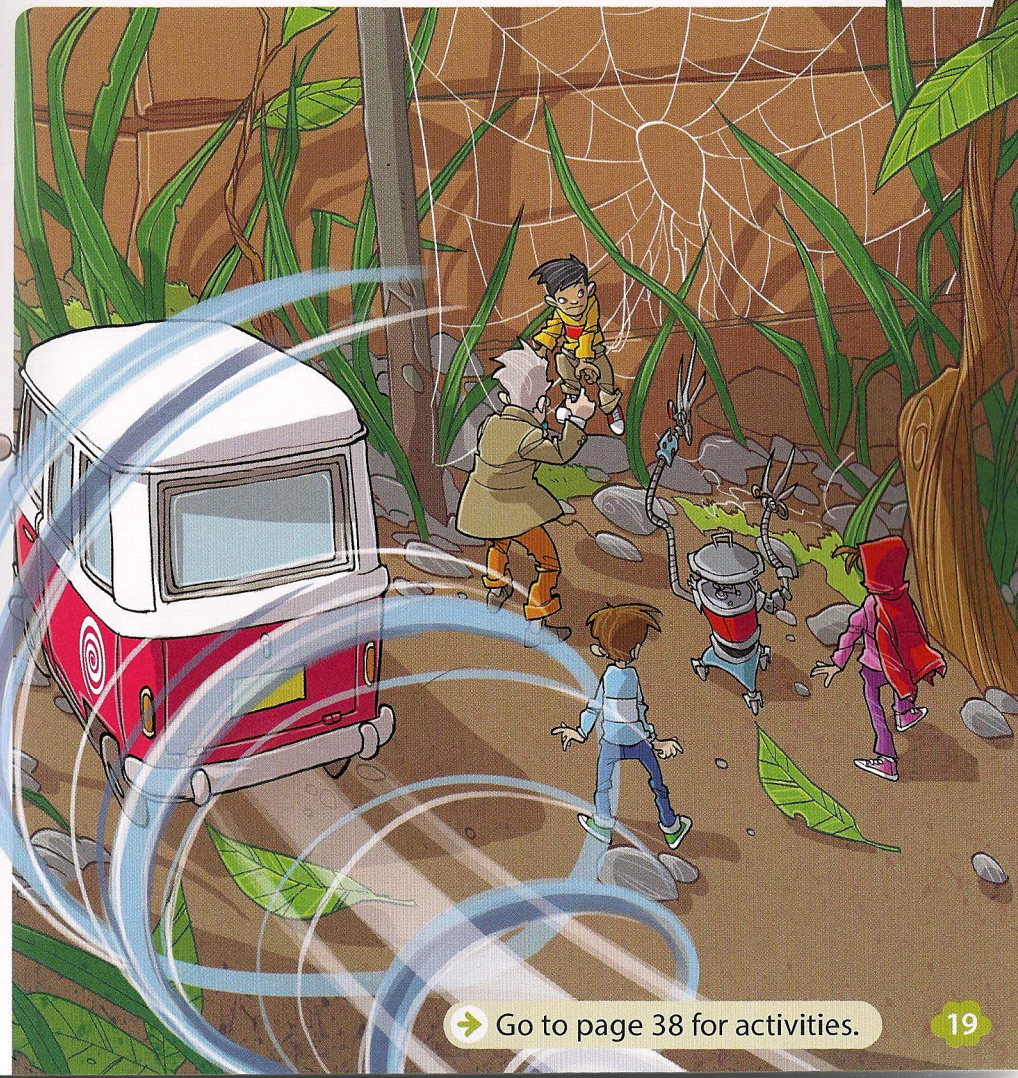
'Do you have any more ideas, Grandpa?' Max asked quickly. 'I don't want to be a spider's lunch!'

Suddenly there was a flash of light. The van was here!

Clunk opened the door and jumped out.

'Don't be scared!' he said. He started to cut the web with the scissors on his arms.

The spider saw Clunk and ran out of the web.



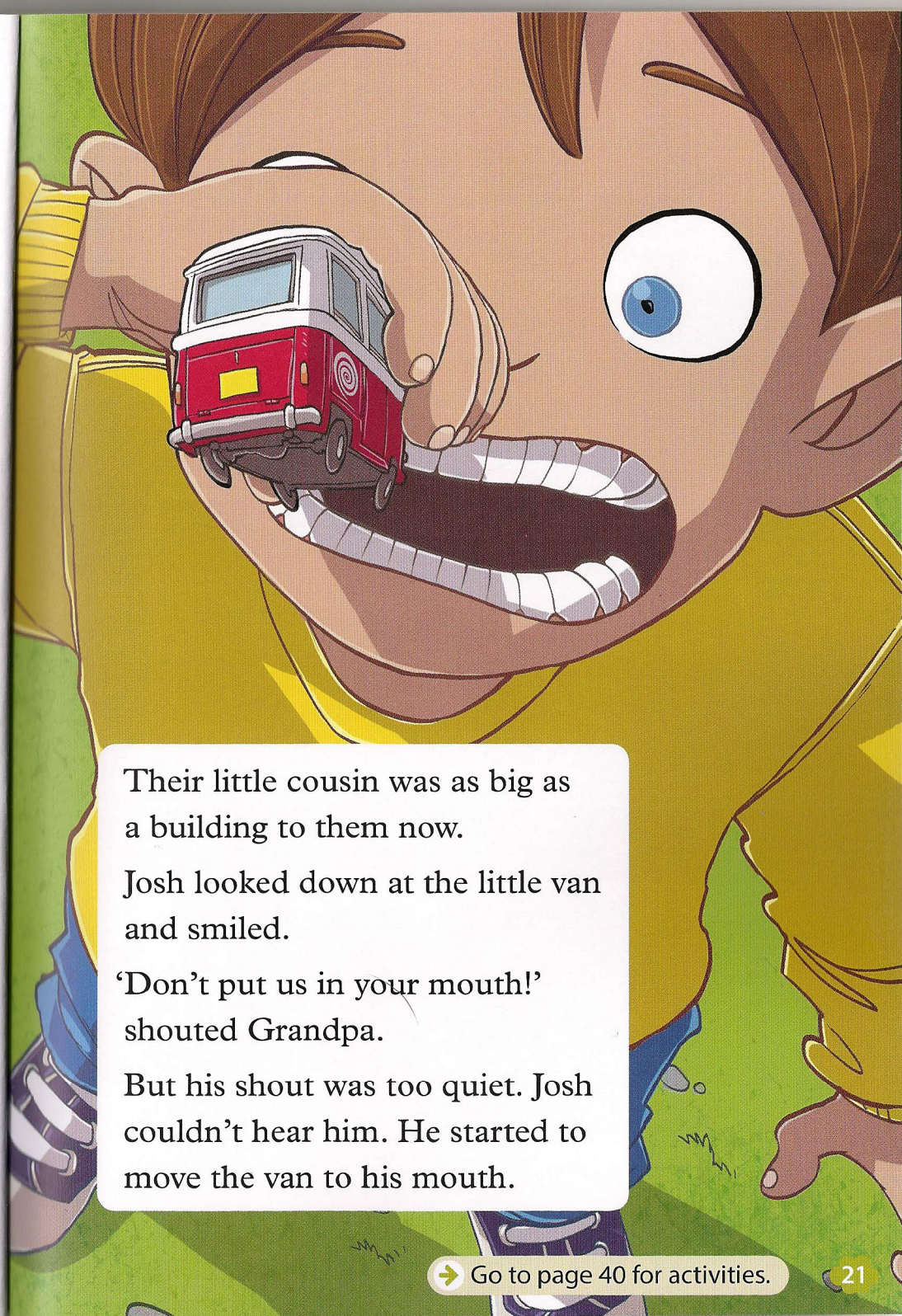
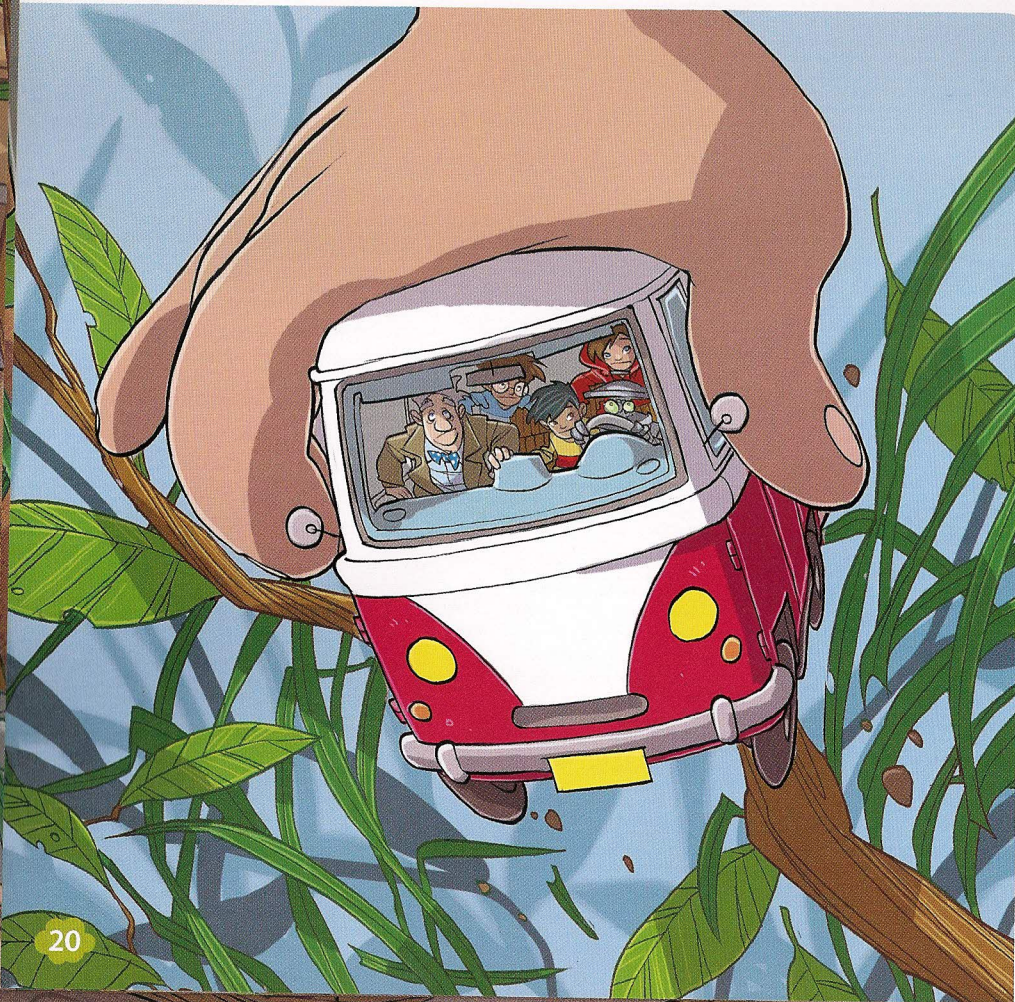
Chapter Five

‘Let’s go to the van again,’ said Grandpa.

But before Clunk started the van, a big shape moved above them. Suddenly a big hand picked up the van.

‘What’s that?’ asked Ben.

Rosie knew. ‘It’s Josh! He’s in the backyard!’




Their little cousin was as big as a building to them now.

Josh looked down at the little van and smiled.

‘Don’t put us in your mouth!’ shouted Grandpa.

But his shout was too quiet. Josh couldn’t hear him. He started to move the van to his mouth.



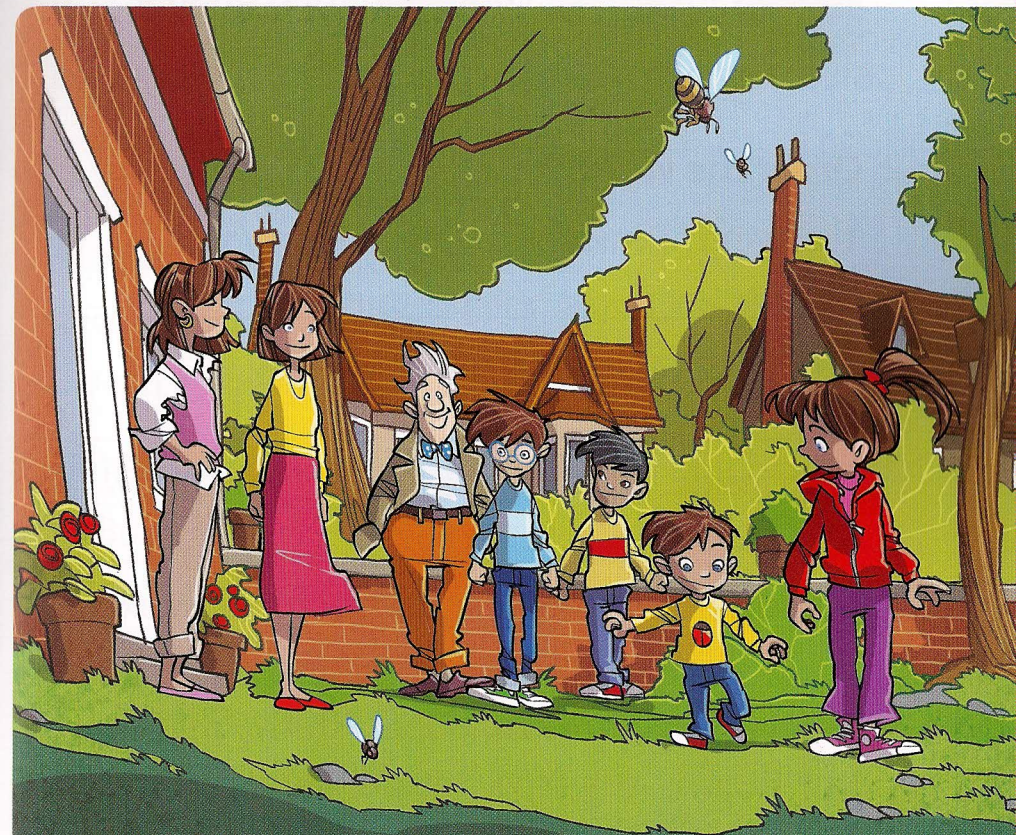
Suddenly there was a shout from the house.
'Josh, come inside, please,' shouted Aunt Val.
Josh looked at the little van again and then
he put it on the ground.
When Josh went to the house, Grandpa said,
'Now, Clunk. Take us home!'

When Ben and Rosie were big again, they saw
Mom and Aunt Val.

'Come and play with your cousin,' Mom said.
'He's looking for bugs in the backyard again.'

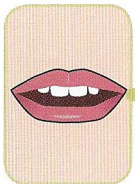
'He saw a little red bug,' said Aunt Val. 'He
wants to find it again.'

'Maybe I can help Josh to look for a different
bug!' said Rosie. 'I know about bugs now!'



Activities for pages 4-5

1 Match.



- 1 mouth
- 2 butterfly
- 3 minibeasts
- 4 pick up
- 5 bugs
- 6 ladybug

2 Order the words.

1 playing / Rosie / with / her cousin. / was

Rosie was playing with her cousin.

2 bug. / picked / Josh / a / up

3 go inside / hands. / and / wash / your / Now

4 backyard. / came / the / Ben and / to / Max

5 going to / We're / Grandpa. / study / minibeasts / with

3 Circle the correct words.

- 1 Josh is Rosie and Ben's / Rosie and Ben little cousin.
- 2 Josh saw a bug and points / pointed at it.
- 3 Josh picked up / picking up a bug.
- 4 The children are going to / going study minibeasts.
- 5 Rosie doesn't / don't really like bugs.
- 6 Rosie likes butterflies and / but ladybugs.

4 Look at the picture on page 4. Write yes or no.

- 1 Josh is picking up a butterfly. no
- 2 Rosie is talking to Mom. _____
- 3 Mom is in the backyard. _____
- 4 The grass is green. _____
- 5 Josh is wearing a hat. _____

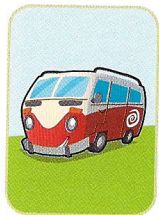
5 Who said this? Write the names.

- 1 'Bug!' Josh
- 2 'Josh is playing inside now.' _____
- 3 'You mustn't do that!' _____
- 4 'I don't really like bugs.' _____
- 5 'You like butterflies and ladybugs.' _____

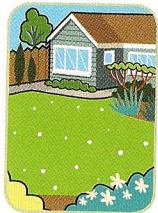
Talk Do you like minibeasts? Talk to a friend.

Activities for pages 6-7

1 Choose and write the correct words.



a van



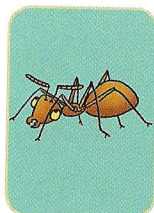
a backyard



grass



a ladybug



an ant

1 This minibeast is red and black.

a ladybug

2 This is outside at the back of a house.

3 This is bigger than a car.

4 This is green. You can find it in a garden.

2 Match.

1 Soon the children

2 Clunk pushed

3 The van got

4 There were tall

5 They were

6 Grandpa wanted

• smaller and smaller.

• to study ants.

• were in Grandpa's van.

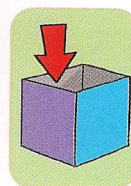
• a button in the van.

• flowers and grass.

• as small as bugs.

3 Choose and write the correct words.

Josh and Rosie were playing in the ¹ backyard. Josh saw a bug and tried to ² _____ it. Then he went ³ _____ to wash his hands. Ben and Max came to the backyard. They got in Grandpa's van and Clunk pushed a ⁴ _____. Now they were as small as bugs.



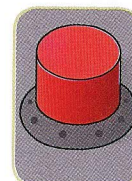
inside



backyard



push



button



eat

4 Order the events in Chapter One.

They all got into the van. _____

Josh went inside. _____

The van got smaller and smaller. _____

Rosie and Josh were playing in the backyard. 1

Ben and Max came to the backyard. _____

Now choose the best name for Chapter One.

Animals in the backyard ☐

Minibeasts in the backyard ☐

Playing in the backyard ☐

Activities for pages 8-9

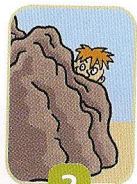
1 Write the words.



1



2



3



4

1 plants l t s n a p

2 _____ d i r b

3 _____ d e h i

4 _____ d y a b g u l

2 Complete the sentences.

speak stopped are heard moved went started

1 Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa went behind a plant.

2 Ladybugs _____ red so birds don't eat them.

3 When it was close to the plant, the ladybug _____.

4 Grandpa and the children didn't _____.

5 The ladybug _____ its head.

6 The ladybug _____ to move again.

7 They _____ a shout.

3 Who said this? Write the names.

1 'Hide!' _____

2 'But ladybugs are nice!' _____

3 'It's going. We're OK.' _____

4 'They're red so birds don't eat them.' _____

5 'They're red and pretty!' _____

6 'That color is a sign.' _____

4 Match. Then write the sentences.

1 Grandpa and the children

2 The ladybug moved

3 Did the ladybug

4 Could the ladybug

5 After a long time

6 Suddenly there

• its head.

• know about the children?

• was a shout.

• didn't speak or move.

• see the children?

• it started to move.

1 Grandpa and the children didn't speak or move.

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

Activities for pages 10-11

1 Write the words.

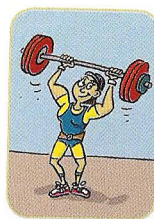
break web spider stick strong fast



1 break



2 _____



3 _____



4 _____



5 _____



6 _____

2 Circle the odd one out.

- 1 bird / sign / ladybug
- 2 sticks / arms / legs
- 3 red / children / black
- 4 speak / run / shout
- 5 spider / web / plant
- 6 hide / look / bug

3 Choose and write the correct words.

Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa went ¹ behind a plant to hide. When the ladybug was close ² _____ the plant, it stopped. Grandpa and the children didn't speak or move. The ladybug didn't eat ³ _____. Suddenly they heard a ⁴ _____. Max was on a spider web. Max said, 'I wanted to hide but I didn't see this web.' Ben and Rosie went ⁵ _____ find Clunk and the van.

1 over behind in

4 shouted shout shouting

2 to on at

5 on for to

3 them they so

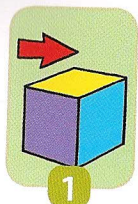
4 Write yes or no.

- 1 Ladybugs are red and black. yes
- 2 Ladybugs are good to eat. _____
- 3 Max saw the spider web. _____
- 4 Clunk can cut a spider web. _____
- 5 Butterflies make webs. _____

Talk Are you scared of spiders? Talk to a friend.

Activities for pages 12-13

1 Write the words.



1 _____ b e v o a

2 _____ t e a

3 _____ a e d i

4 _____ p u m j

2 Order the words.

1 started / Ben and / run. / Rosie / to

2 a bird / moved / them. / Suddenly / above

3 under / a / to hide. / They / toy car / jumped

4 was sitting / bird / the / on / The / wall.

5 Rosie / Then / an / had / idea.

3 Choose the best answer.

1 Rosie: Can you see the bird?

Ben: a Yes, I am. b Yes, I see.

c Yes, I can.

2 Rosie: Where is it?

Ben: a In the wall. b On the wall.

c At the wall.

3 Rosie: What color is it?

Ben: a It has black. b It is black.

c It likes black.

4 Rosie: Are you scared?

Ben: a Yes, I am. b Yes, I'm.

c Yes, I are.

4 Look at page 13. Complete the sentences. You can use 1, 2, or 3 words.

1 Ben and Rosie are under a toy car.

2 Ben _____ the bird.

3 The bird is _____ on the wall.

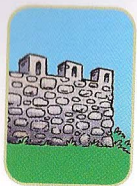
4 The _____ is black.

5 Rosie has an _____.

Talk What is Rosie's idea?
Tell a friend your ideas.

Activities for pages 14-15

1 Choose and write the correct words.



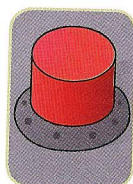
a wall



a van



a sweater



a button



toys

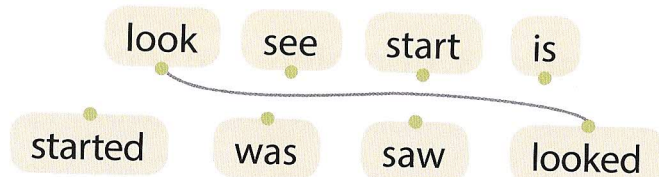
1 This is something you wear. _____

2 You can find this in a backyard. _____

3 You can drive this. _____

4 Children play with these. _____

2 Match. Then complete the sentences using the past tense.



1 Ben looked at Rosie's red sweater.

2 Rosie _____ to run.

3 When the bird _____ Rosie, it moved its head.

4 Soon Rosie _____ near the van.

Talk Does the bird eat Rosie? Does it eat Ben?
Tell a friend your ideas.

3 Order the events in Chapter Three.

A bird moved above Ben and Rosie. _____

Rosie ran to find Clunk. _____

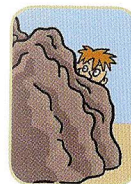
Ben and Rosie jumped under a toy car. _____

Ben and Rosie started to run to the van. _____

Ben looked at Rosie's red sweater. _____

4 Choose and write the correct words.

Ben and Rosie saw a ¹ _____ move above them. They jumped under a toy car to ² _____. Ben could see the bird sitting on a wall. Then Rosie had an idea. Rosie's sweater was red. The bird didn't want to eat Rosie. Ben was ³ _____, but Rosie ran and ⁴ _____ to Clunk.



hide



run



bird



shouted



scared

Now choose the best name for Chapter Three.

The red toy car ☐

The red bird ☐

The red sweater ☐

Activities for pages 16-17

1 Choose and write the correct words.



feel



a web



an ant



a stick



scared



a spider

1 This comes from a tree.

2 This minibeast has eight eyes.

3 This minibeast is very small.

4 Where a spider lives.

2 Circle the correct words.

1 Max was getting **the most** / **more** scared.

2 Grandpa saw **a** / **an** big spider coming.

3 The spider **starts** / **started** to move across the web.

4 The spider could **feeling** / **feel** Max move.

5 Grandpa moved the stick **quick** / **quickly** up and down.

6 The spider **couldn't** / **hadn't** find a bug.

7 Max could see **its** / **it's** eight eyes.

Talk Does the spider eat Max? Tell a friend your ideas.

3 Circle the mistakes. Then write the correct words.

1 **Ben** was in the spider web.

Max

2 Grandpa saw a big ladybug coming.

3 Grandpa put a bug in the spider web.

4 The spider couldn't find a stick.

5 The spider had six eyes.

4 Match. Then write the sentences.

1 Max was getting

to move across the web.

2 The spider started

looking at Max.

3 Grandpa put

find a bug.

4 The spider couldn't

more and more scared.

5 The spider was

the stick into the web.

1 _____

2 _____

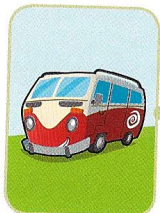
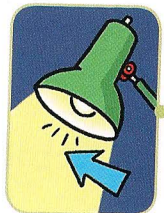
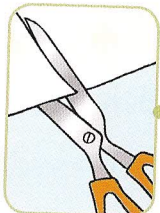
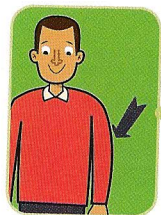
3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

Activities for pages 18-19

1 Match.



- 1 web
- 2 cut
- 3 arm
- 4 flash
- 5 van
- 6 light



2 Look at page 19. Complete the sentences. You can use 1, 2, or 3 words.

- 1 There is a _____ of light.
- 2 Max is in the _____.
- 3 Clunk has _____ on his arms.
- 4 Clunk is _____ the spider web.
- 5 Rosie is wearing her red _____.

3 Choose and write the correct words.

Max was getting more and more ¹ _____.
Then Grandpa saw a ² _____ spider coming.
Grandpa put a stick in the web and moved
³ _____ up and down. The spider ran at
the stick. But then it looked at Max. The spider
wanted ⁴ _____ Max. Suddenly the van
came. Clunk jumped out and ⁵ _____ the
spider web. The spider ran out of the web.

1 scary scaring scared

4 to eat eat
eating

2 bigger big biggest

5 cutted cuts
cut

3 that it this

4 Order the events in Chapter Four.

Clunk started to cut the web. _____

Grandpa put a stick in the web
and moved it up and down. _____

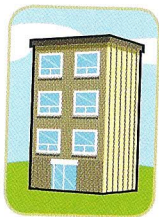
The spider couldn't find a bug and
looked at Max. _____

Grandpa saw a spider coming. _____

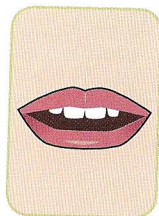
The spider ran out of the web. _____

Activities for pages 20–21

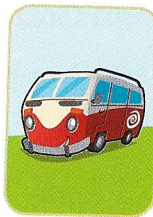
1 Choose and write the correct words.



a building



a mouth



a van



hands



a shout



quiet

- 1 You use these to pick up things.
- 2 You can drive this.
- 3 This is big and you can go inside it.
- 4 This is not loud.

2 Look at the picture on page 20. Write yes or no.

- 1 The children are in the van.
- 2 Grandpa is driving the van.
- 3 Josh has the van in his hand.
- 4 The children are scared.

3 Complete the sentences.

backyard shout cousin hand shape mouth

- 1 A big _____ moved above them.
- 2 A big _____ picked up the van.
- 3 Josh was in the _____ again.
- 4 Josh is Ben and Rosie's _____.
- 5 Grandpa's _____ was too quiet.
- 6 Josh moved the van to his _____.

4 Choose the best answer.

1 Grandpa: Where's Josh?

- Rosie: a I'm in the backyard.
 b He's in the backyard.
 c It's in the backyard.

2 Grandpa: What's he doing?

- Rosie: a He is playing. b He played.
 c He plays.

3 Grandpa: What's he playing with?

- Rosie: a This toy. b An toy. c A toy.

4 Grandpa: Who's shouting to him?

- Rosie: a He's mom. b His mom.
 c Him mom.



Minibeast Research

1 Complete the chart.

butterfly hand mouth ant head ladybug
body spider arm leg bug eyes

 Minibeasts 	 Body Parts 

2 Do you know any more minibeasts and body parts? Write them in the chart.

Talk What do you know about the minibeasts in the chart? Talk to a friend.

3 Find out about two minibeasts. Then draw them and answer the questions.

Name:

What color is it?

How many eyes does it have?

How many legs does it have?

Where does it live?

What does it eat?

Can it fly?

Name:

What color is it?

How many eyes does it have?

How many legs does it have?

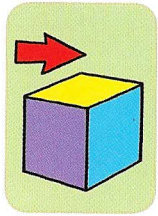
Where does it live?

What does it eat?

Can it fly?

Talk Tell a friend about your minibeasts.

Picture Dictionary



above



ant



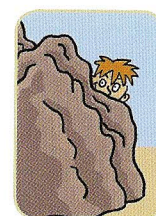
backyard



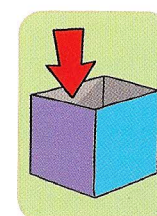
bird



ground



hide



inside



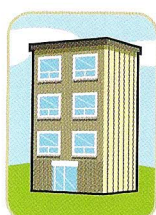
ladybug



break



bugs



building



butterfly



minibeasts



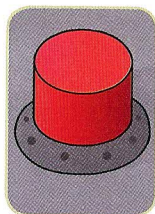
mouth



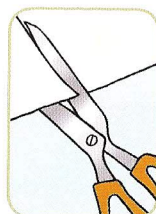
pick up



plants



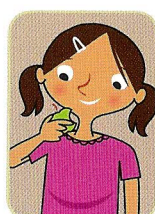
button



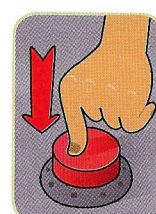
cut



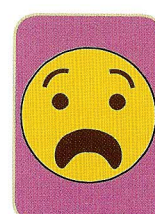
danger



eat



push



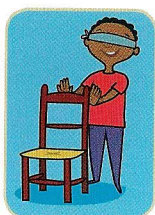
scared



sign



spider



feel



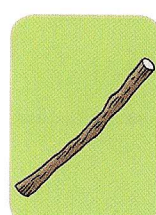
flash



flowers



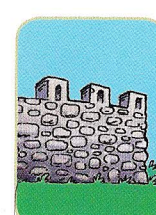
grass



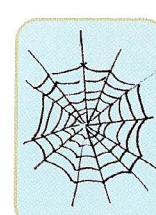
stick



sweater



wall

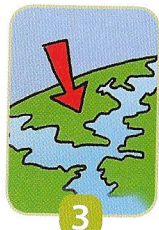
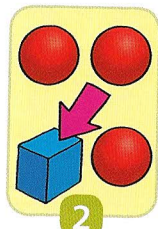
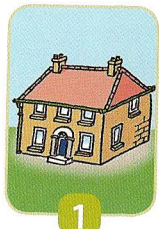


web



Activities for pages 22-23

1 Write the words.



1 _____ u e h s o

2 _____ i f f t e n d r e

3 _____ r d o n u g

4 _____ h o t u s

2 Who said this? Write the names.

1 'Josh, come inside, please.' _____

2 'Now, Clunk. Take us home!' _____

3 'I know about bugs now!' _____

4 'Come and play with your cousin.' _____

5 'He saw a little red bug.' _____

6 'Maybe I can help Josh to look for a different bug!' _____

7 'He wants to find it again.' _____

3 Match. Then complete the sentences using the past tense.

look

can't

is

pick up

go

picked up

went

looked

couldn't

was

1 A big hand _____ the van.

2 Josh _____ down at the little van.

3 Josh _____ as big as a building to them.

4 Josh _____ to the house.

5 Josh _____ hear Grandpa's shouts.

4 Order the events in Chapter Five.

Aunt Val shouted to Josh. _____

They were all big again. _____

A big hand picked up the van. _____

Josh put the van on the ground. _____

Grandpa shouted to Josh. _____

They got in the van again. _____

Josh went back to the house. _____

Josh started to move the van to his mouth. _____

Talk Do you like this story? Talk to a friend.



Oxford Read and Imagine

Danger! Bugs!

By Paul Shipton

Illustrated by Matteo Piana

Activities by Hannah Fish



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