



Level 1

# The Lazy Grasshopper



OXFORD



# The Lazy Grasshopper

*Retold by Rachel Bladon*  
*Illustrated by Bruno Robert*



## 🌿 Contents 🌿

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| <i>The Lazy Grasshopper</i> | 2  |
| Exercises                   | 20 |
| Picture Dictionary          | 22 |
| About <i>Classic Tales</i>  | 24 |

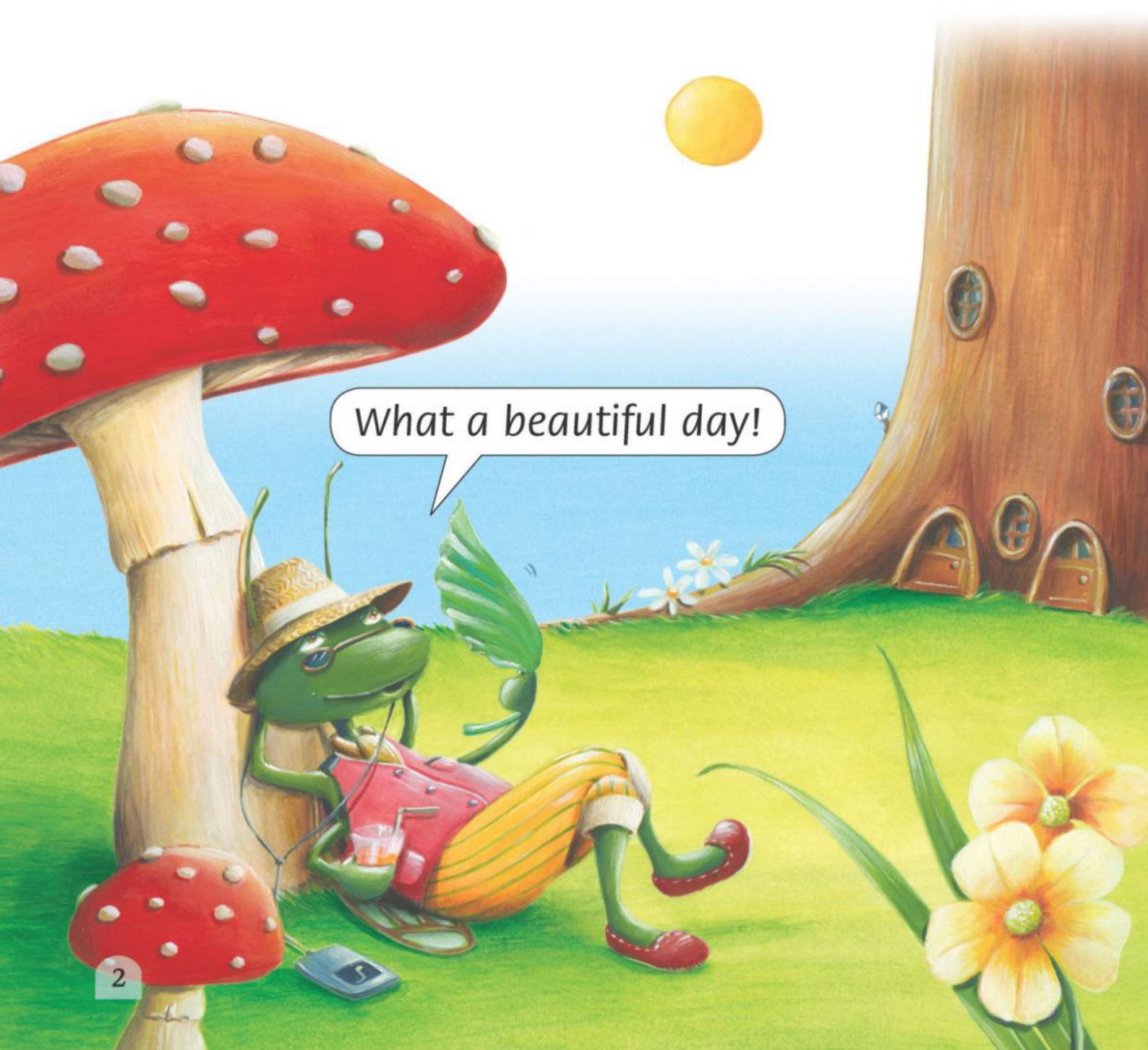
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It's summer, and it's hot.  
The grasshopper sits in the  
shade and sings.

'What a beautiful day!' says  
Grasshopper.







Grasshopper sees an ant.  
She's carrying some food.

'What are you doing, Ant?'  
says Grasshopper.

'I'm carrying food to my home,'  
says Ant.



'It's very hot,' says Grasshopper.

'Come and sit down!

Have a cold drink!'

'No, thank you,' says Ant.

'I'm working. I'm making  
a food store for the winter.'



*Come and sit down!*



‘Winter!’ Grasshopper  
laughs. ‘Don’t think  
about the winter!’  
But Ant doesn’t stop.





All day, Ant works. She carries food to her store. Then she goes and gets some more. She's hot and tired, but she doesn't stop.







Grasshopper sits in the shade.  
He sings and sleeps all day.  
'Silly Ant!' he laughs. 'Don't think  
about your winter store. Look at  
me! When I'm hungry, I eat some  
berries or a nice leaf.'





All summer the ant works.

‘Come and sit down!’ Grasshopper says to her every day.

‘No, thank you,’ says Ant.

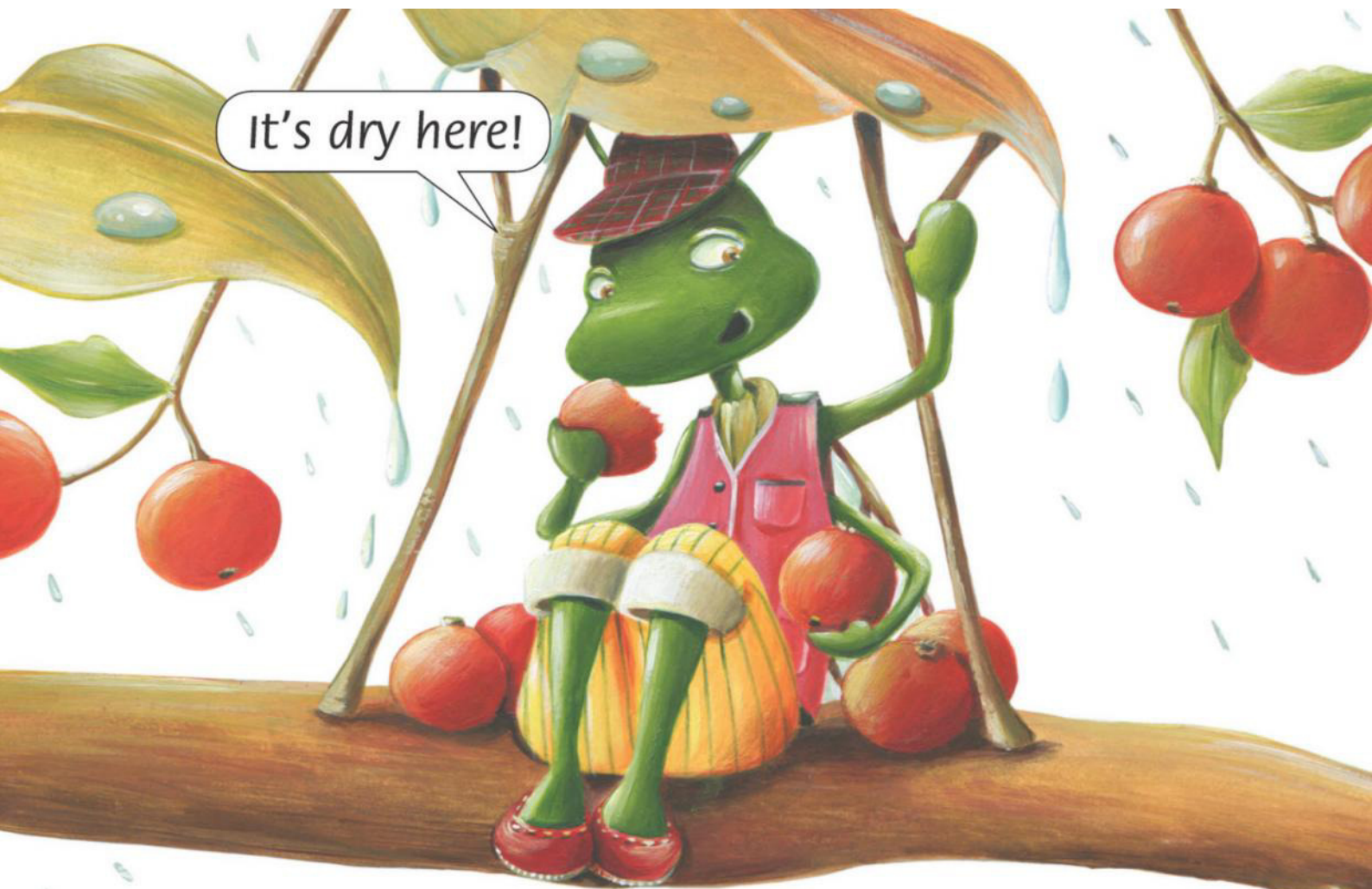
‘I must make my winter store.’



All summer Grasshopper sits  
in the shade. He sings and sleeps,  
and he eats berries and leaves.








It's dry here!

It's autumn now, and it rains every day. Grasshopper sits in a tree. He sees Ant. She's carrying food. 'Come and sit here with me!' Grasshopper says. 'It's dry here!' 'No, thank you,' says Ant. 'I'm making a store for the winter.' 'Winter!' says Grasshopper. 'Don't think about the winter!'





But Ant doesn't stop. She works all day. She carries food to her store, and then she goes and gets some more.

'Silly Ant,' Grasshopper laughs.

'Don't think about your winter store. Look at me! When I'm hungry, I eat some berries or a nice leaf.'







All autumn the ant works.

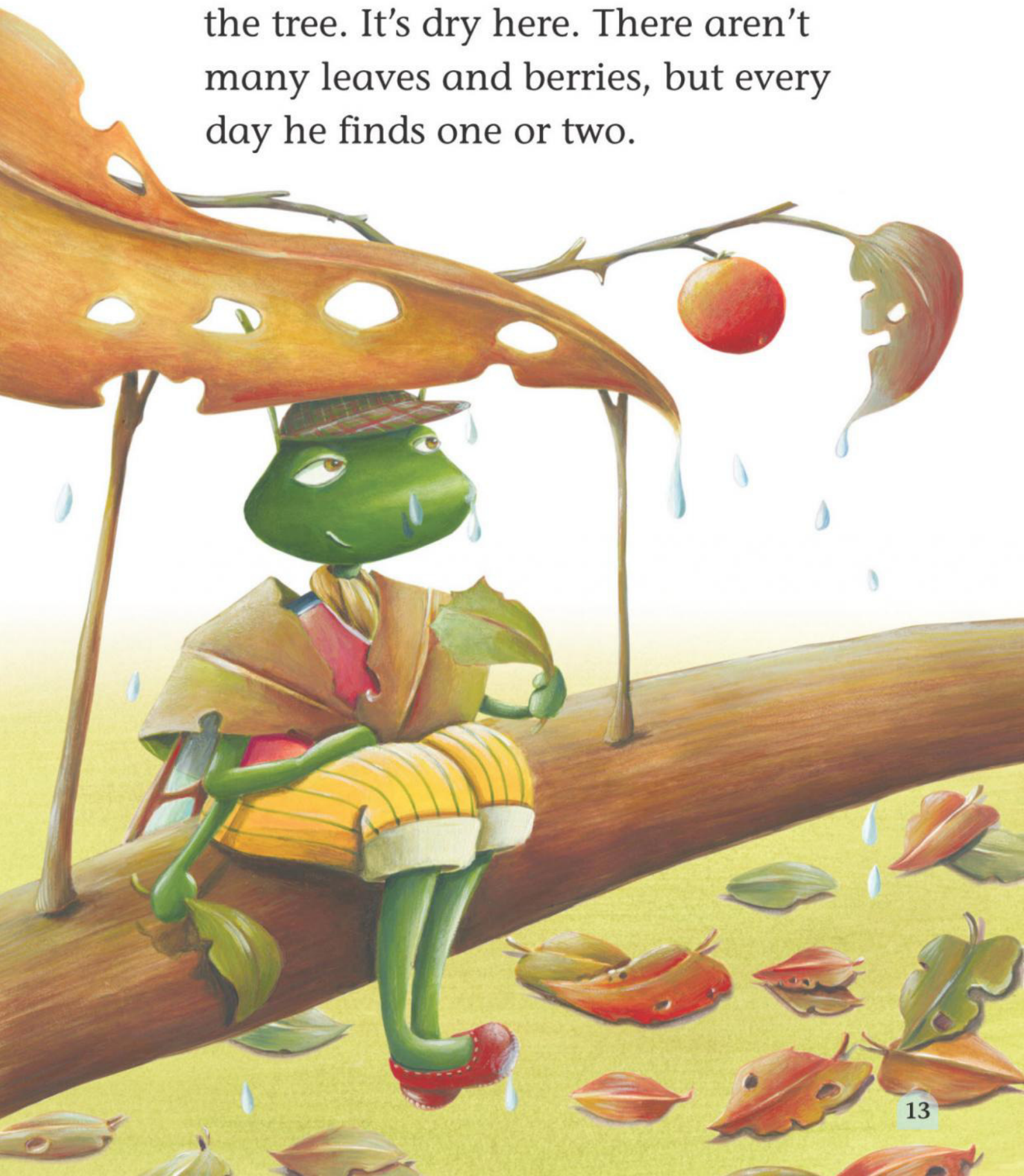
‘Come and sit here with me!’  
Grasshopper says to her every day.

‘No, thank you,’ says Ant.

‘I must make my winter store.’



All autumn Grasshopper sits in the tree. It's dry here. There aren't many leaves and berries, but every day he finds one or two.





It's cold now, and snow comes.  
Grasshopper sits under a rock.  
He sees Ant. She's carrying food.  
'Come and sit here with me!'  
Grasshopper says to Ant.  
'It's warmer here!'





Ant stops.

'No, thank you,' she says. 'I'm going to my home. My store is full, and now I can stay at home all winter!'

'Oh,' says Grasshopper.

'So it's winter now?'

'Yes,' says Ant.

'Goodbye, Grasshopper.'

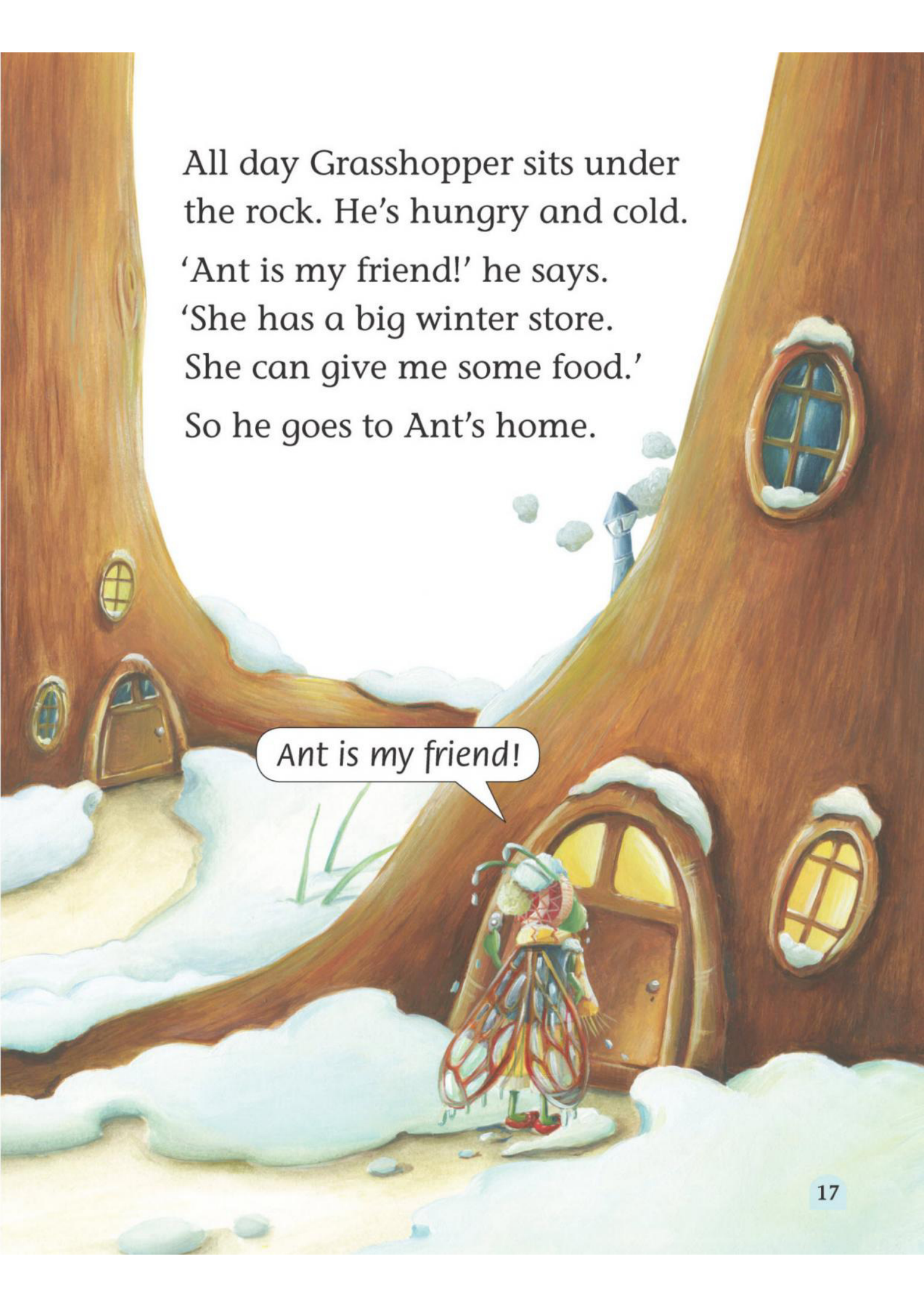
Goodbye,  
Grasshopper.





Grasshopper sits under the rock.  
It's cold. Very cold. There are no  
berries. No berries and only one  
or two leaves.





All day Grasshopper sits under  
the rock. He's hungry and cold.  
'Ant is my friend!' he says.  
'She has a big winter store.  
She can give me some food.'  
So he goes to Ant's home.

Ant is my friend!



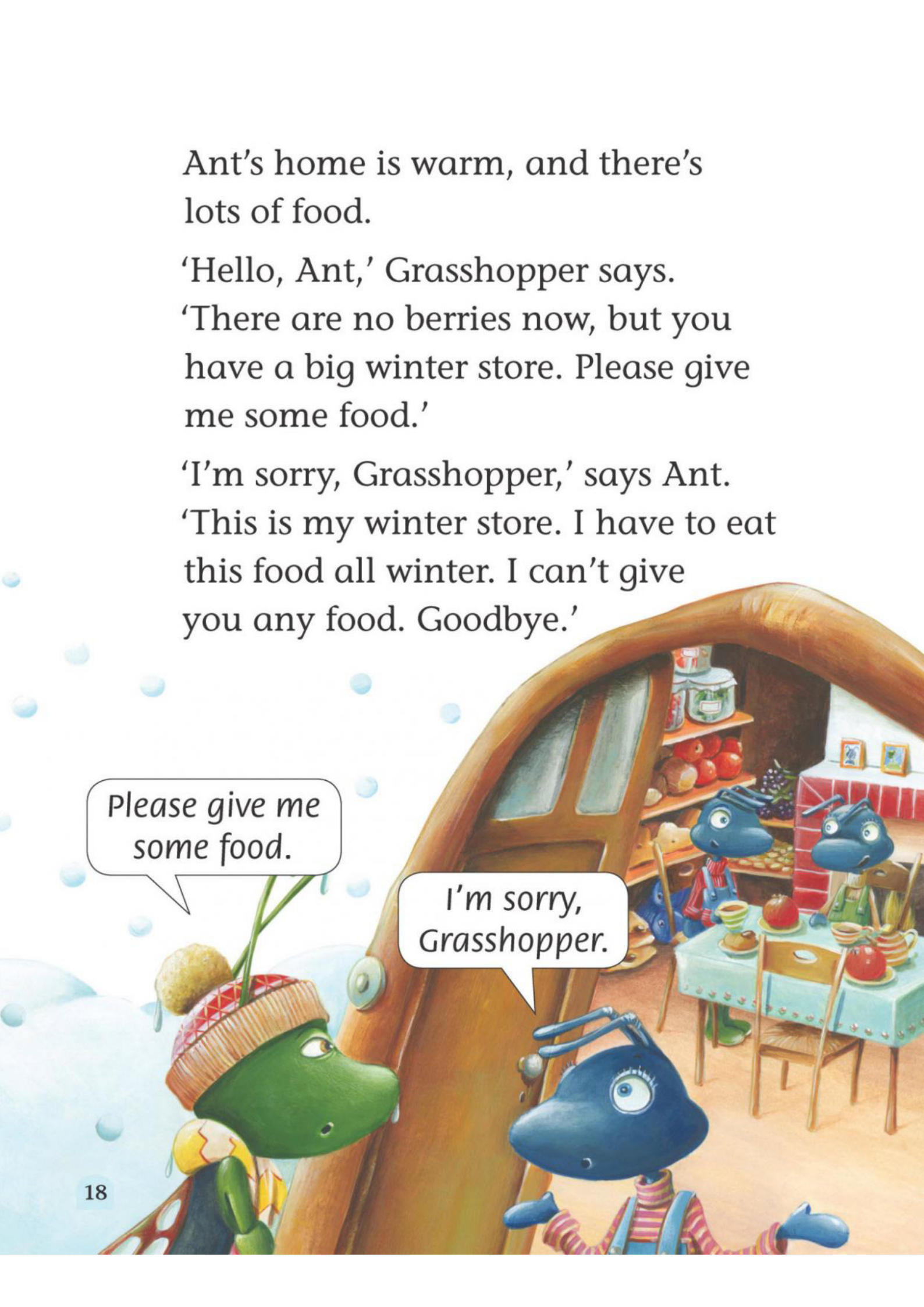
Ant's home is warm, and there's lots of food.

'Hello, Ant,' Grasshopper says.

'There are no berries now, but you have a big winter store. Please give me some food.'

'I'm sorry, Grasshopper,' says Ant.

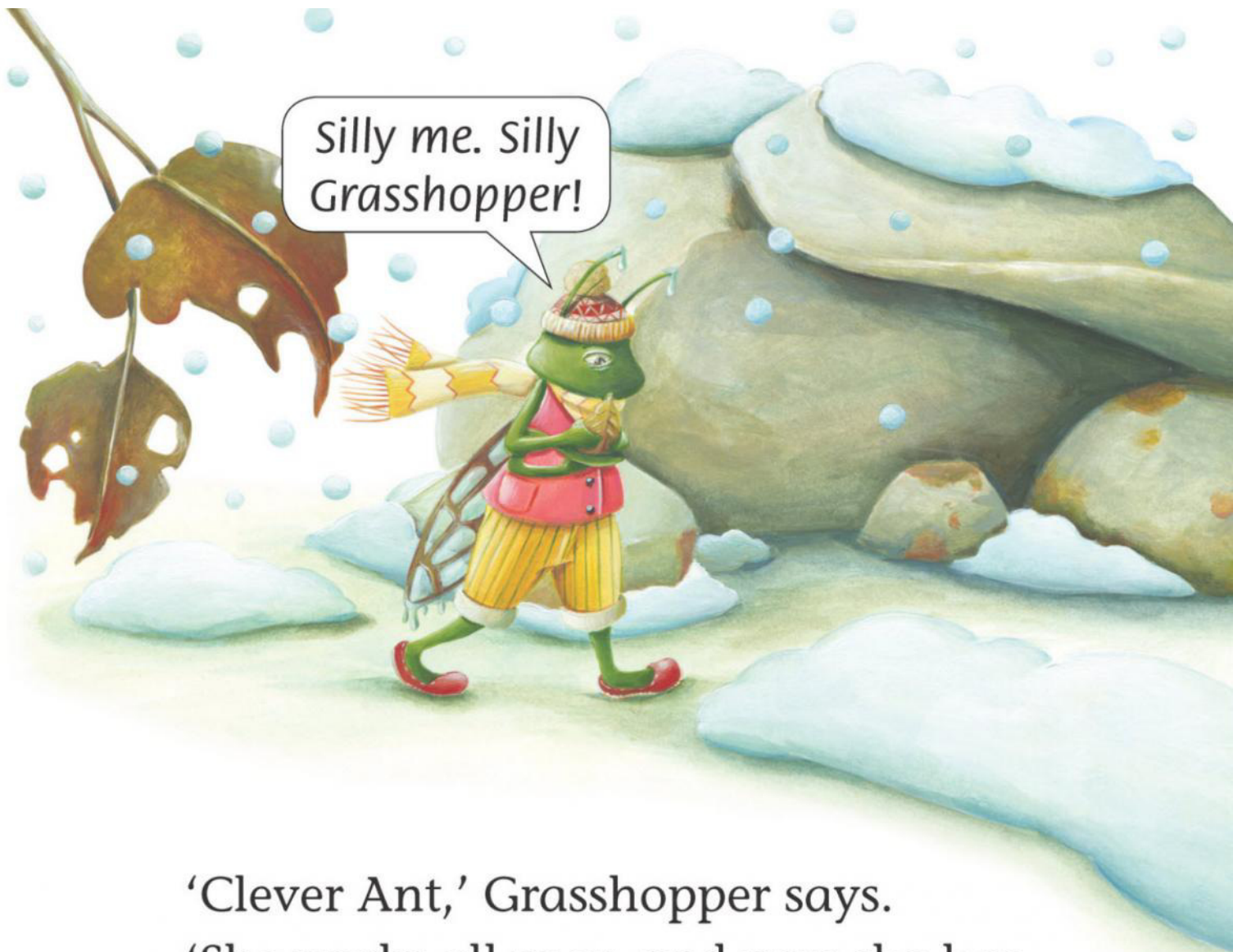
'This is my winter store. I have to eat this food all winter. I can't give you any food. Goodbye.'



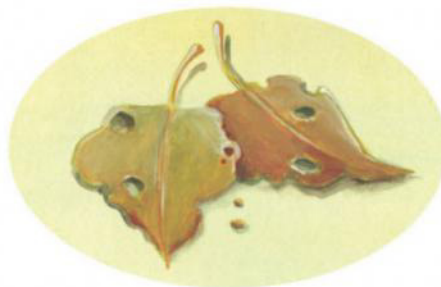
Please give me some food.

I'm sorry, Grasshopper.





‘Clever Ant,’ Grasshopper says.  
‘She works all year, and now she has  
lots of food. Look at me! I sing and  
sleep all year, and now I’m hungry.  
Silly me. Silly Grasshopper!’  
And the grasshopper walks home  
to his rock, cold and hungry.





# Exercises

## 1 Write the words.



It's a rock.



It's a \_\_\_\_\_.



It's a \_\_\_\_\_.



It's an \_\_\_\_\_.



They're \_\_\_\_\_.



It's \_\_\_\_\_.

## 2 Write the words.

berries full rock ~~shade~~ store

- 1 All summer Grasshopper sits in the shade.
- 2 When Grasshopper is hungry, he eats \_\_\_\_\_  
or a nice leaf.
- 3 Ant carries food to her \_\_\_\_\_ all day.
- 4 In the winter, Grasshopper sits under a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Ant can stay at home in the winter because  
her store is \_\_\_\_\_.



### 3 Make sentences about the story.

Grasshopper

sits in the shade all summer.

works all year.

makes a food store.

Ant

sits in a tree all autumn.

is hungry in the winter.

stays at home in the winter.

1 Grasshopper sits in the shade all summer.

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Answer the questions.

1 Who's this? It's Grasshopper.

3 Is he cold? \_\_\_\_\_

2 Is he clever? \_\_\_\_\_

4 Is he hungry? \_\_\_\_\_



1 Who's this?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Is she warm?

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Is she silly?

\_\_\_\_\_



# Picture Dictionary

autumn *It's autumn.*



food



berries



full *It's full.*



carry



laugh



clever *She's clever.*



leaf



dry *It's dry.*



lots of *lots of ants*





rock



store



shade



summer *It's summer.*



silly *He's silly.*



tree



sing



under *under a rock*



snow



warm *It's warm.*



stay *stay at home*



winter *It's winter.*



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- The Little Red Hen
- Lownu Mends the Sky
- The Magic Cooking Pot
- Mansour and the Donkey
- Peach Boy
- The Princess and the Pea
- Rumpelstiltskin
- The Shoemaker and the Elves
- Three Billy-Goats

## Level 2: 150 headwords

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- Big Baby Finn
- The Fisherman and his Wife
- The Gingerbread Man
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- Rainforest Boy
- Thumbelina
- The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse
- The Ugly Duckling

## Level 3: 200 headwords

- Aladdin
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- The Heron and the Hummingbird
- The Little Mermaid
- Little Red Riding Hood
- Rapunzel

## Level 4: 300 headwords

- Cinderella
- The Goose Girl
- Sleeping Beauty
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Level 1

# The Lazy Grasshopper

In summer, Grasshopper sings and sleeps. But Ant works hard, carrying food to her store. Enjoy this famous tale and find out what happens when winter comes.

A retelling of the classic story for learners of English

Retold by Rachel Bladon  
Illustrated by Bruno Robert

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 **Level 1: 100 headwords**

 **Level 2: 150 headwords**

 **Level 3: 200 headwords**

 **Level 4: 300 headwords**

 **Level 5: 400 headwords**

**Word count for this story: 554**

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- **The Lazy Grasshopper Activity Book and Play** providing extra activities and the story adapted as a play for performance in class or on stage.

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