

The Porcupine and the Curious Boy

by Katherine Reilly & Jenny Dooley




**SHORT
TALES**
LEVEL 6



Express Publishing



Where are the man and the boy? What is the boy looking at?





One day, Herbert and his father decided to visit the forest. His father, Homer, was a ranger and he wanted to teach his son about forest animals.

“Are you excited Herbert?” asked Homer.

“Yes, I am! I have never been to the forest before. Will we see many animals?” asked Herbert.

“I think we will. There are many animals at the waterfall. We will have to go there on foot because there are no roads to drive there.” Homer and his son walked down a path when they suddenly spotted a spiked animal in the bushes.

Herbert ran close to it, but his father told him to stop.



Why are Herbert and his father going to the waterfall?
What is Homer’s job?

Go to activities
on page 16



ACTIVITIES

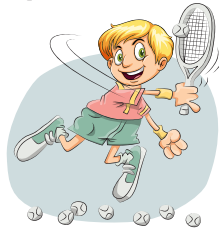
for pages 10-11



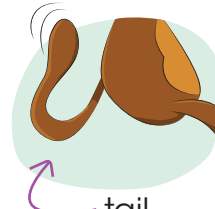
13 Listen and say.



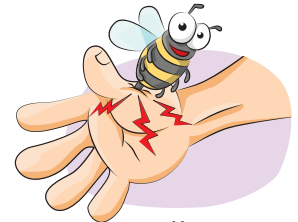
kneel



hit



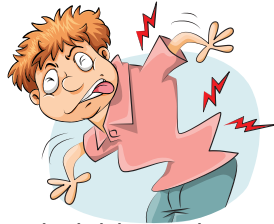
tail



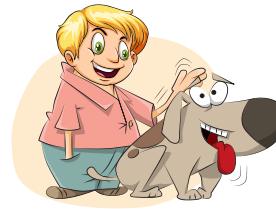
sting



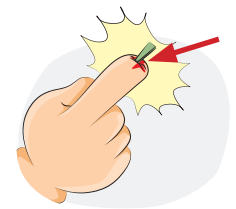
crying



twist in pain



pet



stuck in

14 Use the words from the boxes to complete the sentences.

fell back

pet

sting

hand

pain

- 1 Ouch! I felt a **sting** on my hand!
- 2 He fell from his bike and he was crying in
- 3 Dogs love it when you them.
- 4 The boy got scared of the porcupine and
- 5 He had a spike stuck in his and it hurt.

15 Read the story on pages 10-11 again and decide if the sentences are Right or Wrong.

- 1 Herbert knelt next to the porcupine. **Right**
- 2 The porcupine hit Herbert with its tail.
- 3 Herbert didn't cry at all.
- 4 Herbert's hand was twisted in pain.
- 5 Herbert had a spike stuck in his hand.

ACTIVITIES

for pages 12-13



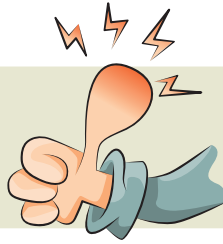
16  Listen and say.



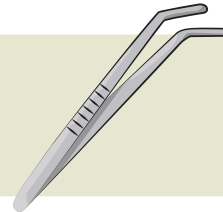
first aid kit



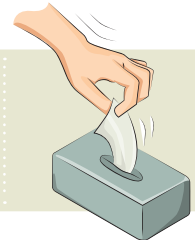
jeep



swollen

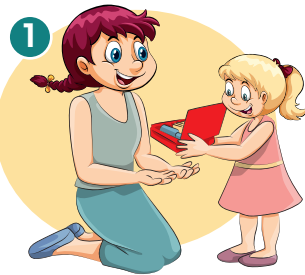


pair of tweezers



pull out

17  Read and choose. Write the correct letter on the line.



1

1)

There you go,
Mum.



2

What's the
matter, Jim?

2)

- a Can you give me the first aid kit?
- b Is this a pair of tweezers?
- c Did you touch the porcupine?

- a My arm is red.
- b My hand is swollen.
- c My head hurts.

18  Report what Herbert and Homer said.

1 "I have a first aid kit in the jeep."

Homer said **he had a first aid kit in the jeep.**

2 "I will never touch another animal again!"

Herbert said

3 "Don't move, Herbert."

Homer told Herbert

4 "I have to pull out the spike."


Homer said

WORD LIST

attack	in danger	scare sth away
bushes	insects	scream
calm down	jeep	sharp
chase	kneel	spiked animal
climb trees	lift the leaves	spikes
crying	make a sound	spot
curious	on foot	stay close to
defend	pair of tweezers	sting
drive	path	stuck in
excited	pet	swollen
first aid kit	pets	tail
forest	porcupine	touch
friendly	pull out	tree bark
hedgehog	ranger	twist in pain
hide	roll up in a ball	walk away
hit	run after	waterfall
hurt	run away	wild animals

KEY STRUCTURES in this story:

- Reported Speech (statements - commands)
- words related to the forest and spiked animals



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Herbert is a curious boy who goes on a trip with his father to the forest. He wants to touch a porcupine, even though his father told him it is dangerous. Why are porcupines dangerous? Will Herbert listen to his father?



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