

Greetings from Paradise Island

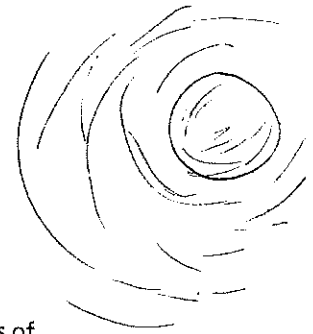
For the holiday of a lifetime, why not set sail to Paradise Island and escape the grey skies and concrete blues of city life?

Relax while sipping a Co-Co Loco on golden sun-kissed sands. Then cool off by swimming with dolphins in crystal blue waters.

“A tropical playground filled with excitement and adventure”

Discover the breath-taking beauty of our underwater gardens with their colourful corals and beautiful fish. Or explore the magical Misty Mountains and take a shower under Angel Falls?

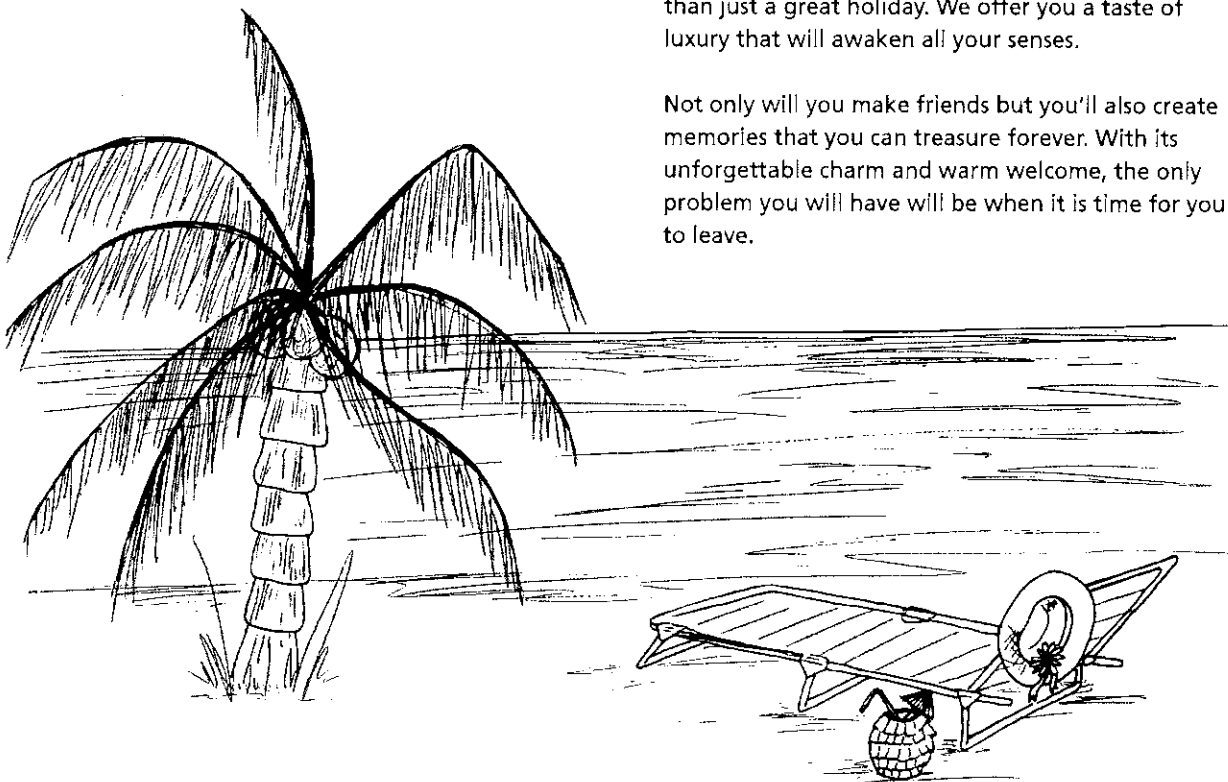
And if that doesn't take your fancy, then why not be brave and canoe down Rattlesnake River and look for long lost treasure? Dare you enter the chattering jungle and search for the hidden caves of Captain Jack?



And remember, at night the island comes alive with an explosion of colour and sound! Have you ever danced Salsa in the salty sea air before? Or eaten fresh papaya under the gaze of the moon and the stars?

Paradise Island truly is a tropical playground filled with excitement and adventure. We offer you more than just a great holiday. We offer you a taste of luxury that will awaken all your senses.

Not only will you make friends but you'll also create memories that you can treasure forever. With its unforgettable charm and warm welcome, the only problem you will have will be when it is time for you to leave.



Greetings from Paradise Island

1. Where would you find this text, in a book or brochure?
2. If you wanted one of these books where would you go?
3. What is the name of the holiday island?
4. Why do you think it is called that?
5. What can you do on this holiday during the day?
6. What can you do on this holiday during the night?
7. What is a Co-Co Loco? Meal, drink or dance?
8. Who do you think Captain Jack was? Pilot, holiday maker, pirate or local?
9. Why do you think the coral reef is described as an 'underwater garden'?
10. Why do you think the writer talks about 'fresh papaya' and not apples or strawberries?
11. The writer paints a picture of the island that 'awakens all your senses'. Which sense does the writer 'awaken?' How?
12. How is Paradise Island contrasted with life in the city?
13. Will Captain Jack's caves be easy to find?
14. What might you find in there?
15. Why do you think the writer calls good memories a 'treasure'?
16. Write down any examples of alliteration you can find.
17. Why do you think the writer uses alliteration so much in this text?
18. What do you think 'concrete blues' means?
19. Is the title formal or informal?
20. What do you think the 'problem' will be when your holiday is over?

Ice Planet

Five – Begin landing space shuttle

Four – Fasten safety belts

Three – Lower landing legs

Two – Fire braking rockets

One – Shut main engines off

Touchdown! 'Mission control, we have landed.'

The ship shuddered to a halt. Gemma smiled. Was the ship shuddering because it was scared of landing on this strange planet or because it felt cold as its feet touched the frozen rocks?

It had taken over eight months to get here and the blue and green marble they called home was a million miles away. Yet here they were, after a long and difficult journey, about to be the first humans to set foot on this unexplored world.

Simon held Gemma's hand. 'Are you ready?' Gemma nodded and soon they were putting on their space helmets.

There was no sun to warm this frost bitten planet and the only light came from the glittering sky above.

Great chunks of ice groaned in the distance and the snow crunched under their feet.

Crystals, like frozen trees, towered above them, growing high into the blackness of space. Smaller crystals sprang from the ground like the sharp teeth of a guard dog trying to bite any newcomer that walked on his land.

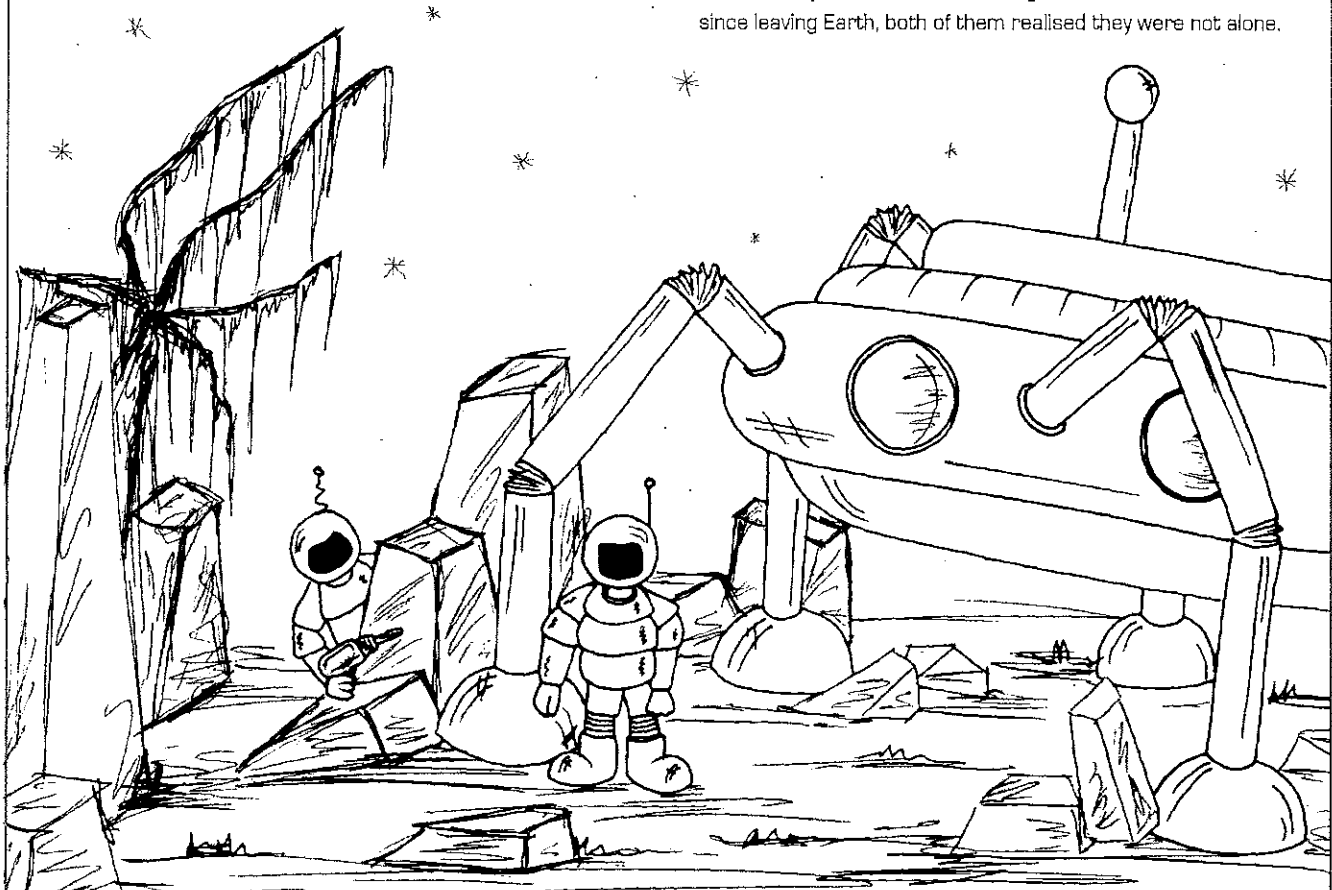
'Be careful not to step too close to those crystals', Simon warned.

Suddenly there was a sharp scream.

The astronauts looked at each other.

'Did you hear that?' Gemma asked Simon.

'It's probably nothing. The wind perhaps or our imagination'. Simon slowly reached for his laser gun. And for the first time since leaving Earth, both of them realised they were not alone.



ICE PLANET

1. Why do you think the planet is so cold?
2. If there is no sun, what lights up this planet?
3. Which planet do you think is being described as a 'blue and green marble'?

What does this tell us about the size and shape of this planet?

4. Why do you think the small crystals are likened to dogs' teeth?
5. Why does the ship shake or shudder when it lands on the planet?
6. Do you think the space ship can really feel the cold when it lands? Why do you think Gemma makes this into a joke?
7. Which word tells us that some ice crystals are very tall?
8. What noises can the astronauts hear?
9. The 'un' prefix is often used to make a positive word into a negative. Make the following positive words into a negative.

Friendly

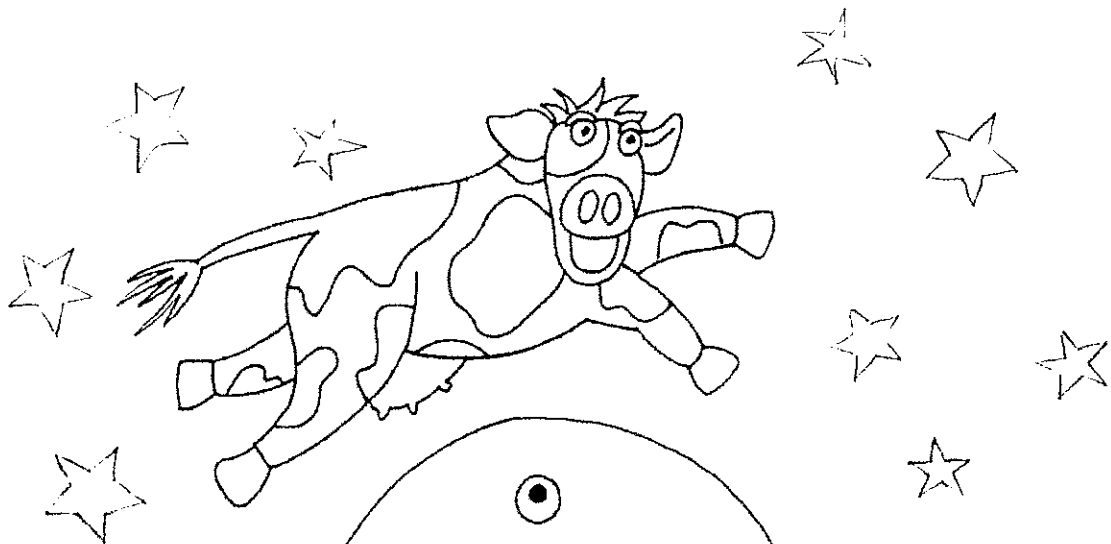
kind

welcoming

happy

helpful

10. Which negative words would you choose from your list to describe the Ice Planet?



Hey diddle diddle,
The cat had a fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon.
The little boy laughed, to see such fun,
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

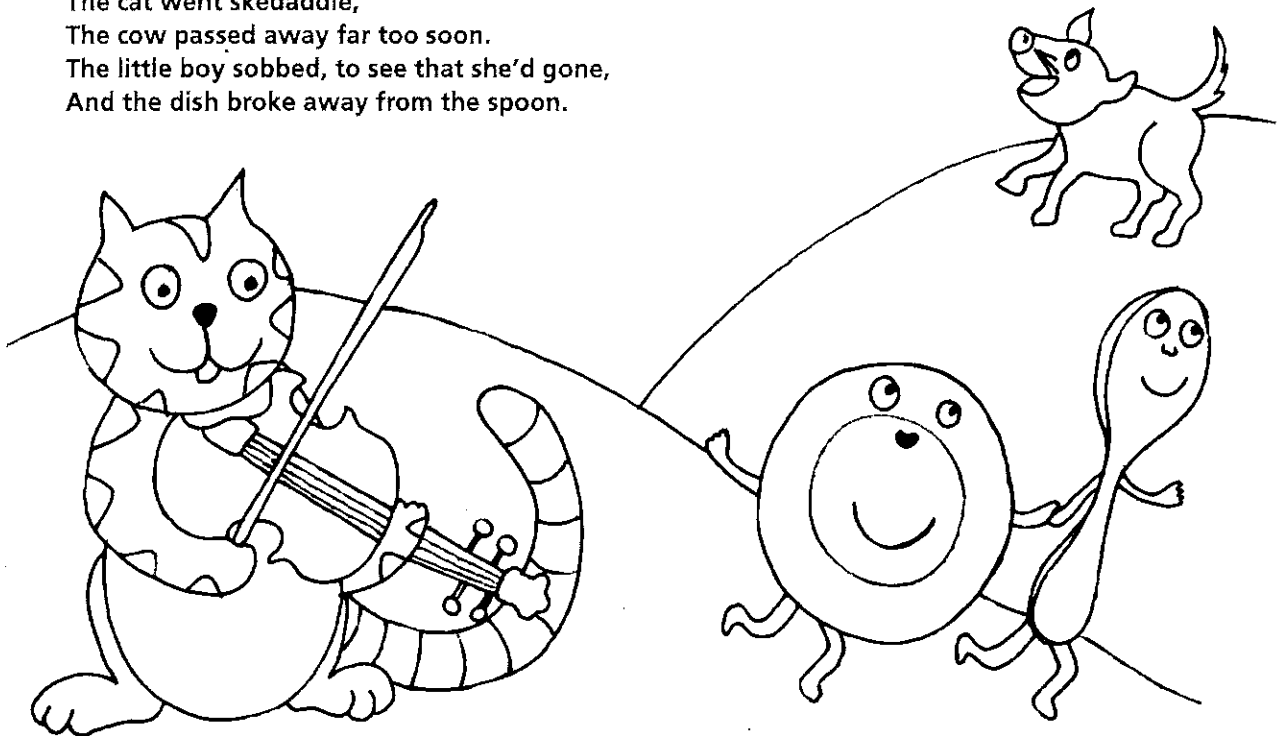
Hey diddle diddle,
The cat lost his fiddle,
The cow became ill in the June.
The little boy stopped, upset by this riddle,
And the dish had a row with the spoon.

Hey diddle daddle,
The cat went skedaddle,
The cow passed away far too soon.
The little boy sobbed, to see that she'd gone,
And the dish broke away from the spoon.

Hey diddle diddle,
The Cat found his fiddle,
The calf, he was born about noon.
The little boy giggled, to see life unriddled,
And the dish made it up with the spoon.

With no rhyme or reason,
Our life can change season,
Come winter the snow will abound.
But the laughter once lost, because of the frost,
Just lies hidden, and in spring, will be found.

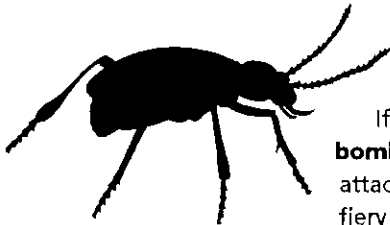
Selina Jones



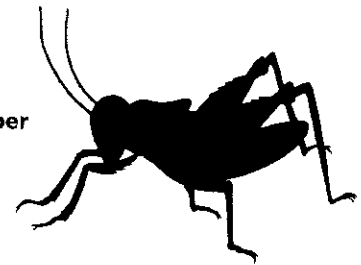
1. What type of poem is this?
2. Who wrote this new version of the nursery rhyme?
3. Do you think the poem will be funny or serious, happy or sad? Why?
4. Who do you think this poem will be for; Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2?
5. Can you name the four seasons we have in the year?
6. What type of face would show the following emotions: happiness, sadness, worry, hope?
7. Match each emotion with one of the four seasons. Explain your choice.
8. Which of these sub-headings suits verse 1: a change for the better, a change for the worse, good times, bad times?
9. Which of these sub-headings suits verse 2: a change for the better, a change for the worse, good times, bad times?
10. Which of these sub-headings suits verse 3: a change for the better, a change for the worse, good times, bad times?
11. Which of these sub-headings suits verse 4: a change for the better, a change for the worse, good times, bad times?
12. A footballer is 'over the moon' when he scores a goal. Which emotion is this describing?

Stop Bugging Me

We may be small and some of us might provide birds with a tasty snack, but who wants to be eaten alive? Not me! So here are a few examples of how me and my friends try to protect ourselves.

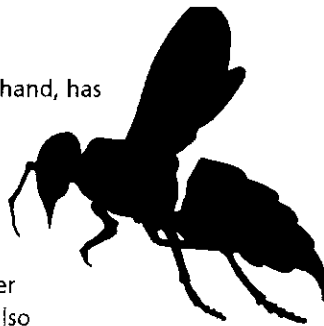


If **Barry the bombardier beetle** is attacked, he shoots a fiery liquid from his bottom. POP! This spray explodes at nearly 100°C. Ouch!

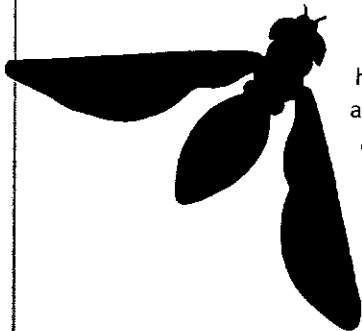


Gareth the grasshopper can jump 20 times his own body length in a flash. If he gets scared he leaps away in the blink of an eye. Now you see him, now you don't!

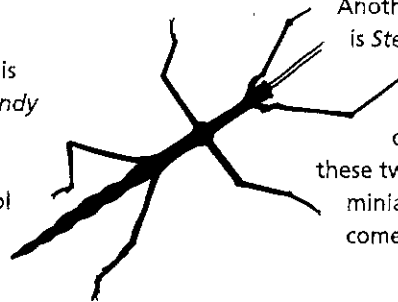
Wendy the wasp, on the other hand, has a sting in her tail that she can use over and over again. Her cousin, **Betty bee**, however, can only sting you once. This is because when she flies away, not only does she leave her poisonous sting inside you but also her stomach.



Ugh! **Sandra the king swallowtail caterpillar** looks like a shiny bird dropping. How disgusting! You wouldn't go near her, let alone gobble her up.

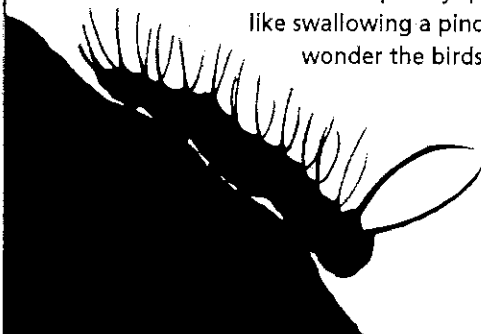


Harry the hover-fly is harmless. So, like **Wendy** and **Betty**, he wears a black and yellow jacket to try and fool the birds into thinking he's as harmful as they are.

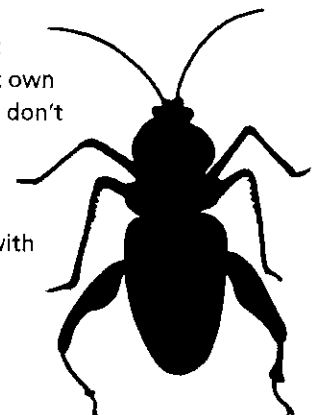


Another insect that uses disguise is **Steve the stick insect**. Can you see him on the tree? No? Exactly! If you look closer you'll see that one of these twigs has two tiny eyes and a miniature mouth. I bet he won't come to a sticky end soon.

Peter the postman caterpillar also wears a jacket. But his is full of sharp hairy spikes. A bit like swallowing a pincushion. No wonder the birds ignore him.



Me, on the other hand, I can't run fast, can't fire boiling hot liquid from my bottom and can't camouflage myself. I don't own hairy spikes and I certainly don't look like bird muck. So as a **leaf beetle**, what do I do when I'm attacked? I just roll over on my back with my legs in the air and lie there. And do you know what? It works!



Stop Bugging Me



1. What happens to a bee once it has stung you?
2. When a grasshopper jumps, does he jump a long or short distance?
3. Does Gareth jump slowly or quickly? How do you know?
4. How do we know the writer doesn't like the idea of Sandra's disguise?
5. Why would birds not like eating Peter?
6. Does the bombardier beetle fire the liquid from its bottom quickly or slowly? Is the liquid hot or cold?
7. Does the speaker think Steve is clever how he protects himself?
8. Find a word that means 'very small'.
9. Antonyms are words that mean the complete opposite to one another. Find two antonyms in Harry's information?
10. Make the following words into antonyms:
hope _____ joy _____ pain _____
use _____ rest _____
11. Read the conclusion. Write down the scientific word that means 'to disguise yourself with your background'.

The Eaglet has Landed!

'Nooooooooooooooooooooo!'

Andrew scrambled to grab the safety rope and prayed Louise's safety harness would hold.

Rock climbing is a dangerous sport at the best of times, but climbing down a rock face with an icy north wind fast approaching, was not their idea of fun. Neither time nor the weather was on

their side. But it was their job to rescue the eaglet and they had to act quickly.

Suddenly, the rope jerked to a stop.

'Are you alright?' Andrew yelled.

'Never better. Lovely view from up here,' replied Louise.

Several rocks tumbled into the frothy sea below as Louise hung in midair like a spider hanging on her thread.

'Very funny! Now get a move on. Those dark clouds are rolling in and they're rolling in fast.'

Carefully, Louise lowered herself down until she was level with the mass of twigs that clung to the cliff wall. No sooner had she arrived than the fluffy head of the sea eagle chick popped up to see what all the fuss was about.

Normally, chicks in the wild would never lay eyes on a human being, let alone be handled by one. Both Andrew and Louise agreed that it was better this way. However, whether the adult birds had been scared off by egg collectors or even killed wasn't known. What was known was that the baby chick had been abandoned. And if the storm didn't kill it, then starvation would.

Out of one pocket Louise took her pair of handling gloves. Out of the other she took a dead mouse and popped it into the rucksack that hung over her shoulder.

Wings flapping, the chick's beak stabbed at Louise's hand.

'Here you are little fella. Don't be scared. Mummy's not going to hurt you.'

And with one swift move, the ball of fluff had been taken from the nest and was eating happily in the dark.

As she did so Louise felt something wet on her cheek. She looked up at the black, looming clouds overhead. Taking a deep breath, she grabbed the rock above her head and began the dangerous climb back.



The Eaglet has Landed



1. Who is the main character?
2. Give two reasons why the eaglet is in danger.
3. Why do you think Louise fell at the beginning of the story?
4. Why does the writer liken her to a spider?
5. How do we know the eagle is young?
6. Is the eaglet male or female? What evidence in the text supports this?
7. Why did Louise put a dead mouse in her rucksack?
8. Why did the eaglet eat the mouse in the dark?
9. What do you think Louise felt on her cheek as she was rescuing the chick?
10. Why do you think Louise called herself 'mummy' when speaking to the chick?
11. What does looming mean?
 - large and fluffy
 - close and threatening
 - dark
12. What do you think happens next in the story?

ROBO-DOG

Man's best friend just got better!

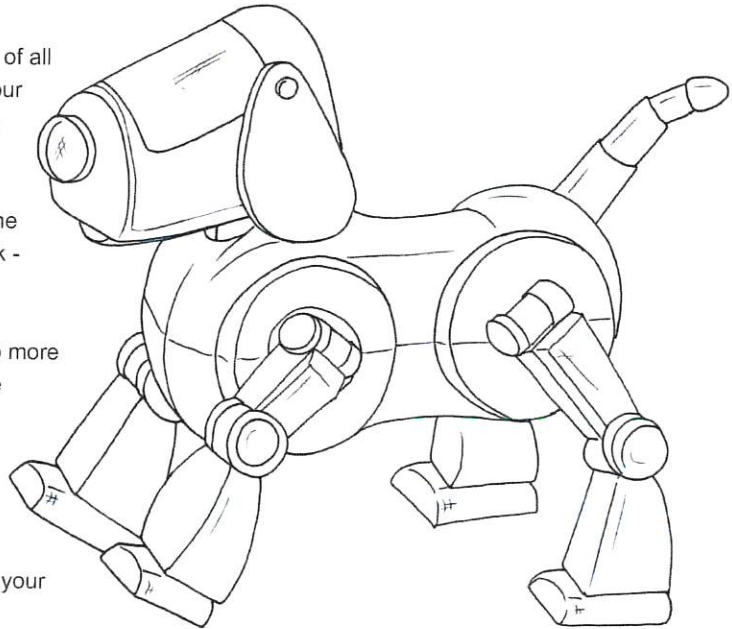
**ONLY
£99.99**

Are you sick and tired of all that tidying up after your dog; the early morning wake up call when the postman arrives, the growling at next door's cat, the need to take it out for 'walkies' every night after work - even when it's pouring down?

Well, no more! No more carrying a poop-a-scoop, no more searching for that battered old dog lead and no more running after him when he decides to go for a swim.

Friendly, waterproof and flea-free, Robo-Dog can fetch your newspaper and slippers without damaging or slobbering all over them. And when he's tired, just plug him into the mains as you would your mobile phone. What could be easier?

You can own Robo-Dog for an incredible price of just £99.99. Order now and receive a fantastic bone-shaped alarm clock free. It's simple! Just fill in the coupon below or order on-line at our amazing website at www.robopets.com. You can also choose from a wonderful range of shapes, sizes and colours.



Robo-Dog will give you all the love you need without the messy dog hair or that awful doggy smell. But if that isn't enough, laser eyes and supersonic ears make him the perfect burglar alarm. He'll even phone the police for you.

YOU'D BE BARKING MAD TO MISS THIS OFFER!

Please send me a Robo-Dog to the following address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send your order to: Robo-Pets, PO Box 500, Woofville, OL24 1K9

Terms and conditions:

1. This offer is for UK residents only. 2. Buyers must have parental consent if under 16 years of age. 3. Refunds to be asked for within 30 days of receiving your Robo-Dog. 4. Batteries not included

Robo-Dog



1. What type of text type is this and where would you find it?
2. What is selling and how much does it cost?
3. Fill in the table below with a tick or a cross:

	Real dog	Robo-Dog
Waterproof		
Clean		
Easy to control		
Smelly		
Noisy		
Messy		

4. How does the advertiser feel about:
 - Real dogs?
 - Robo-Dog
5. Was this advert written a long time ago or quite recently? How do you know?
6. If I wanted to buy a Robo-Cat, where could I look at one?
7. Why do you think 'batteries not included' is the last thing written on the page?
8. Why do you think Robo-Dog is priced at £99.99 and not £100?
9. Why does the advert begin with 'man's best friend just got better'?

THE BATTLE OF MISTY MOUNTAIN

'Do you trust me? Then jump. Just take a deep breath, close your eyes and jump.' And with that Melody Jane let go of his hand and did just so.



Set in the Wild West during the American gold rush, *The Battle of Misty Mountain* tells the story of how two people from very different worlds fight to stay together, fight to overcome prejudice and fight to stay alive.

When local cowgirl and heroine of the book, Melody Jane, gets thrown from her horse, Lightning, she needs to be rescued quickly. But when the rescuer happens to be an Indian and they fall in love, then for those living in Carbon Creek, it raises questions we all need to ask. Should it really matter what colour your skin is if you want to be together? Are we really that different as human beings that the colour we are should tell us who we should be?

The award-winning author, Sue Bailey, writes a beautiful tale that will make you laugh, make you cry and make you think. *The Battle of Misty Mountain* raises an issue that, if left unanswered, threatens to divide and destroy not only the sleepy town of Carbon Creek but also the world in which we live today.

"...A touching story of how love conquers all. A story we all need to read."

The Daily Reader

"From gun fights to the sheriff's jail, you won't want to put it down. This year's must read."

Books Forever

Illustrated by James Mead
Hopscotch Publishers

Price: UK - £3.99
Canada & USA - \$7.95

ISBN 412-2-58973-297-1



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The Battle of Misty Mountain

1. Is this story set in the past, present or future?
2. Where would you find the blurb and what is its purpose?
3. The Daily Reader calls this story 'touching'. What part of the body do you think it touches?
4. What phrase tells you that Sue Bailey has written books before?
5. What other countries is this book sold in?
6. What word in the first quote means to 'win over'?
7. What is Melody Jane's horse called?
8. Do you think her horse is young or old, fast or slow?
9. Is this blurb successful? Would you read the book? Why or why not?
10. What section of the library would you find this book in?
11. What is the main issue that is raised in the book?



How the sea became salty

Long, long ago, in a far away land, there lived two brothers. Both were poor and both were fishermen – catching just enough fish to sell by night and selling just enough fish to live on by day.

Living in a rickety old house, you would think the two brothers were unhappy, but you would be wrong. They laughed and sang as they worked. They had many friends and few cares in the world.

One day a mysterious man, with a weathered face and a long wispy beard, hobbled into their village. On seeing the man, the brothers at once decided to give him a hot meal and a place to rest his head for the night.

To thank them, the following morning the mysterious man placed a small wooden bowl upon the table.

"Kindness repays kindness. Never again will you need salt to flavour your food, for this is a magical bowl. Simply say 'knee how, war der pongyow' and the bowl will begin to fill with salt. Say 'dzi jeen, war der pongyow' and it will stop."

Thankful for the gift, the brothers bid him a safe journey home and waved as he again hobbled down the road.

However, a seed of greed was soon planted in the hearts of the two brothers, for the salt that they had begun selling to their friends had made them richer and richer and richer.

Anxious that the magical bowl would one day be stolen, the brothers would sail into the ocean before whispering the magical words into the bowl.

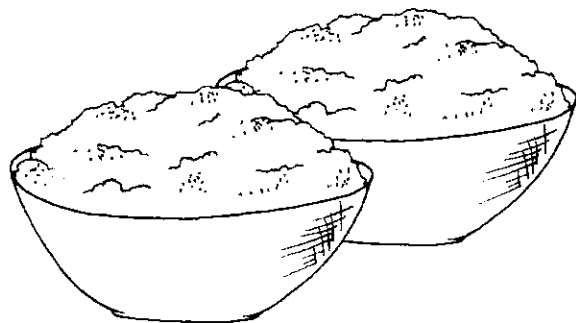
But this day was different! A storm was racing towards them yet the two brothers still set sail. Soon the angry storm toyed with them like a cat with a mouse, but still they took no notice. 'Knee how, war der pongyow,' whispered the brothers and the bowl began to fill.

As the bowl brimmed to the top, the brothers laughed and sang about what a wonderful life they had. Little did they notice that the storm had become furious and the boat was beginning to sink.

It wasn't long before it was too late. The boat, the bowl and the two brothers all sank to the bottom of the ocean, never to be seen again.

The storm calmed and became a gentle breeze. But neither brother got the chance to say 'dzi jeen, war der pongyow' and the bowl continues to overflow to this day.

And that is how the sea became salty.



How the sea became salty



1. Which country is this story from?
2. Give two pieces of evidence that the mysterious man was old.
3. How do you know that the two brothers did not have a lot of money before they met the mysterious old man?
4. Did the two brothers become rich quickly or over a longer period of time? How do you know?
5. Did the brothers say the magic words loudly or quietly?
6. What does this tell us about their character? Were they Kind? Selfish? Greedy? Generous?
7. Which of the other two words would best describe the brothers at the beginning of the story?
8. What did the brothers do to prove this?
9. Do you think the mysterious man walked quickly or slowly, with ease or with difficulty? Find a word to support your view.
10. Do you think it's good to read stories from other countries? Why?
11. What do you think the moral of the story is?