

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

READING Adventures

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**Make a
Difference**



**Once
Upon a
Time**

JOURNEYS

Units 1–6

READING Adventures



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
School Publishers

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The Vain Peacock

*retold by Charles Daniel
illustrated by Mircea Catusanu*



Peacock was famous for his beauty. He had a long graceful neck. He had a large colorful tail. When Peacock struck a pose, his feathers glittered in the sun.

Peacock looked at himself seven times each hour. He bragged, "I am so gorgeous!"

"He is full of himself!" Crow thought.

“He is so *bigheaded!*” Crow muttered to Donkey.

“What did you say?” asked Peacock.

“I was just telling Donkey how beautiful you are,” said Crow. “It is a shame that we are the only ones who may admire your beauty. Don’t you want to share your beauty with others?”



“You’re right!” said Peacock. “I will visit the King so that he can see my beauty, too!”

All the animals were glad to see Peacock go.

“Maybe he won’t be so vain when he returns,” said Crow.

“We’ll see whether he learns a lesson,” said Donkey.





Seven days later, Peacock returned home.

“I met the King, and he said I was quite lovely!”
boasted Peacock.

“Oh, how nice,” said Donkey. “What else did the
King say?”

“When I sang for the King, he said that I was wonderful!”
said Peacock. “He said I have a beautiful voice.”

Now Donkey knew for a fact that Peacock couldn't sing, because Peacock's voice was terrible.

"Really?" asked Donkey.

"Yes, really! Just ask the King," bragged Peacock. "After singing, I flew across the lake. The King said that I was as graceful as a swan. He wanted to give me a medal."



Donkey knew that Peacock couldn't fly well, either.

"Is that true?" Donkey asked.

"Of course," said Peacock. "Just ask the King, and he will tell you!"

"Peacock, we can't visit the King," said Donkey.

"You must show us how well you sing. Show us how gracefully you fly, too."





Peacock was silent, and then he blushed.
Donkey said, “Don’t be shy!”
Peacock knew he had to sing, so he opened his
mouth and sang, “OW! OW!”
“Are you in pain?” asked Donkey with a smile.
“I sang better for the King,” Peacock said.
“Then show us how well you can fly!” said Donkey.

“I wish I had time, but I have an important meeting now!” said Peacock.

“Maybe you can *fly* there,” Crow laughed.

Peacock walked away quickly as he muttered,
“Maybe next time!”

“I have a good feeling about Peacock,” Donkey said.
“I think that Peacock won’t be quite so vain anymore!”



Speak Up!

The Vain Peacock has three characters. Each character has different thoughts and feelings.

Make a stick puppet of one of the characters. Use the puppet as you read the fable aloud with two classmates. When you read your character's words, use a voice that shows how the character feels.

Then trade puppets so you can play a different character. Read the story again, and use a different voice to show this character's feelings.

Remember!

- Use your voice to show a character's feelings.
- Peacock is vain. How might he sound when he speaks?
- Donkey doesn't believe what Peacock says. How might Donkey speak to Peacock?



Now make a recording of *The Vain Peacock* with your classmates. Remember to use your voice to show your character's feelings. Here are two ways that you can record the story.

Use a computer to record a video and your voices.



Use a video recorder to record a video and your voices.

Tip

Watch and listen to your recording. If you don't like it, record it again.

Afternoon on a Hill

by Edna St. Vincent Millay

I WILL be the gladdest thing
Under the sun!

I will touch a hundred flowers
And not pick one.

I will look at cliffs and clouds
With quiet eyes,
Watch the wind bow down the grass,
And the grass rise.

And when lights begin to show
Up from the town,
I will mark which must be mine,
And then start down!



The Swing

by Robert Louis Stevenson

How do you like to go up in a swing,
Up in the air so blue?
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing
Ever a child can do!

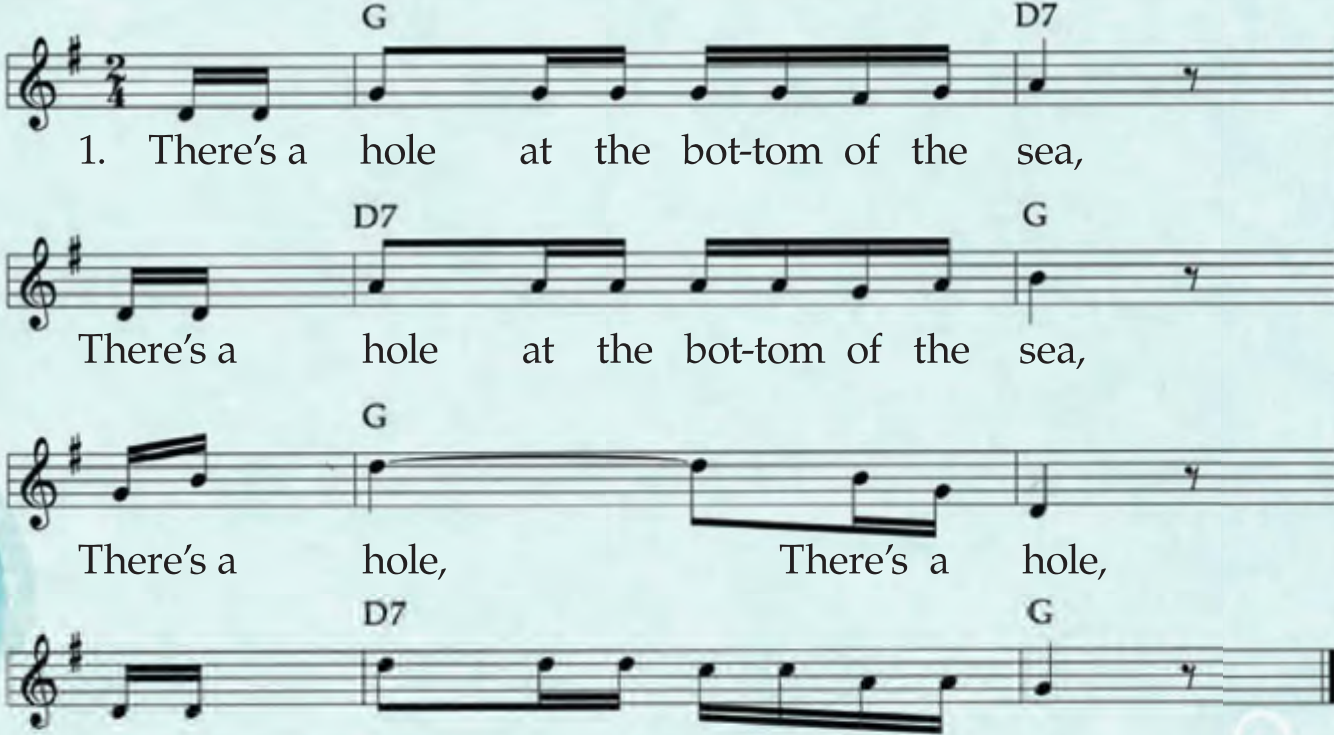
Up in the air and over the wall,
Till I can see so wide,
River and trees and cattle and all
Over the countryside—

Till I look down on the garden green,
Down on the roof so brown—
Up in the air I go flying again,
Up in the air and down!






THERE'S A HOLE AT THE Bottom of the Sea



1. There's a hole at the bot-tom of the sea,
There's a hole at the bot-tom of the sea,
There's a hole, There's a hole,
There's a hole at the bot-tom of the sea.

2. There's a log in the hole at the bottom of the sea,
There's a log in the hole at the bottom of the sea,
There's a log, there's a log,
There's a log in the hole at the bottom of the sea.

- 
- The background is a vibrant underwater scene. At the top, three fish swim: two with green and yellow stripes, and one with red and yellow stripes and a purple tail. Below them, a large green frog with a pink mouth sits on a brown log. To the left of the frog, two more fish are visible: one with green and yellow stripes and red fins, and another with a blue and yellow patterned body and purple fins. The bottom of the scene is filled with colorful coral in shades of red, yellow, and purple. Bubbles of various sizes float throughout the light blue water.
3. There's a bump on the log in the hole
at the bottom of the sea,
There's a bump on the log in the hole
at the bottom of the sea,
There's a bump, there's a bump,
There's a bump on the log in the hole
at the bottom of the sea.
4. There's a frog on the bump on the log in the hole
at the bottom of the sea . . .
5. There's a tail on the frog on the bump on the log
in the hole at the bottom of the sea . . .
6. There's a speck on the tail on the frog on the bump
on the log in the hole at the bottom of the sea . . .

Let's Talk

Did you know there are rules for having a friendly and polite discussion? It's true! Read what these children are saying. Do you think this is a good discussion? Why?

The poem about the swing is my favorite.

Hey! Are we having pizza for lunch?

I forgot my lunch.

This story is so funny!



Tips

- Only one person should speak at a time.
- Stay on the topic of the discussion.
- Wait until a speaker has finished talking before you add your comments.

What makes this a good discussion?

The poem about the swing is my favorite.

That's my favorite, too.

I like the song the best.

Me, too! It's really fun to sing.



Now have a discussion with two or three classmates. Talk about the poems and song you just read, or choose one of the topics below.

Remember to follow the tips!

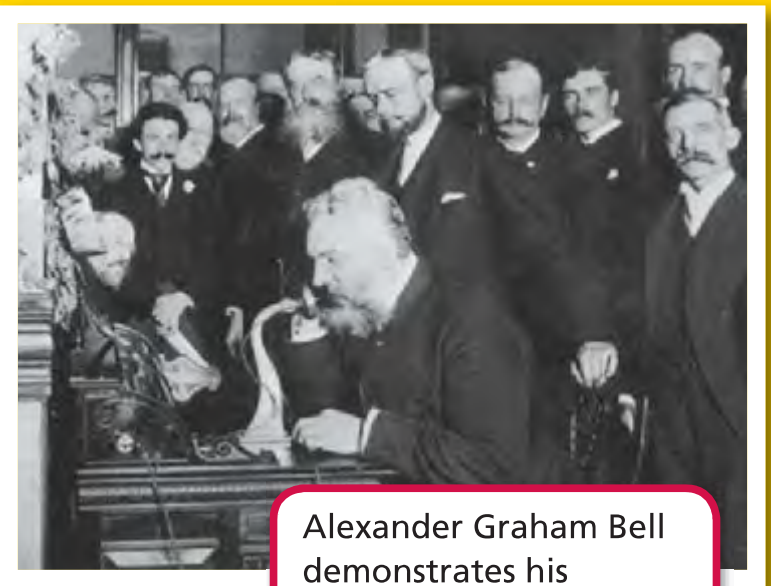
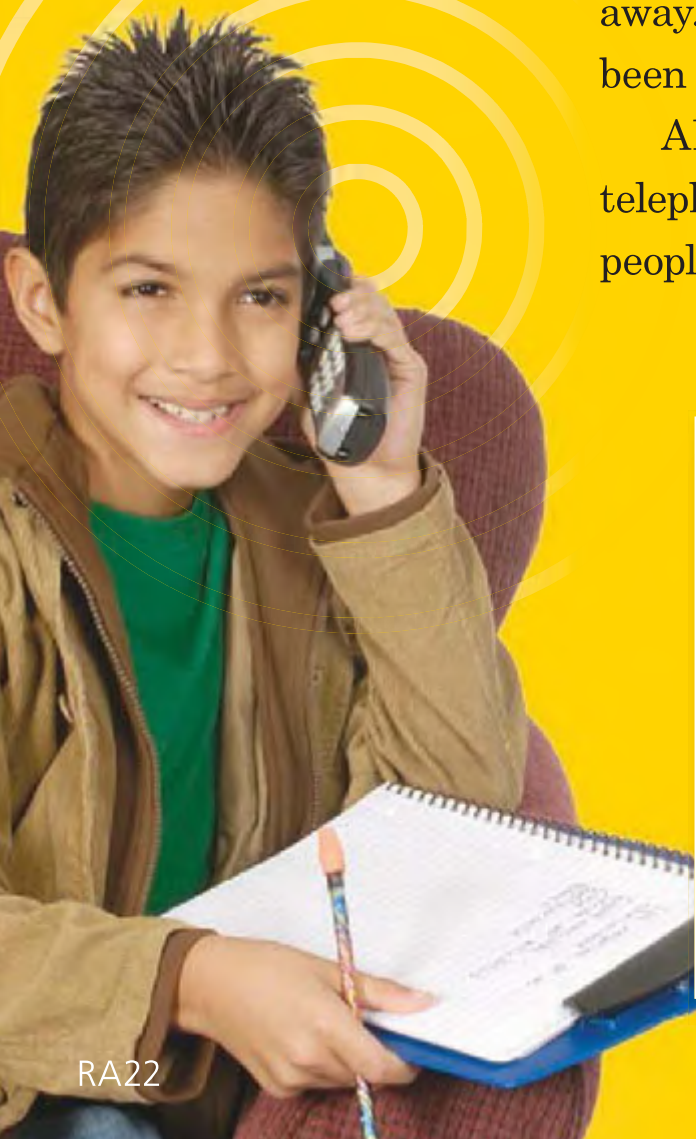
- What do you like to do when you are outside?
- What is your favorite season? Why?
- Which wild animal is the scariest? Why?

Who's Calling?

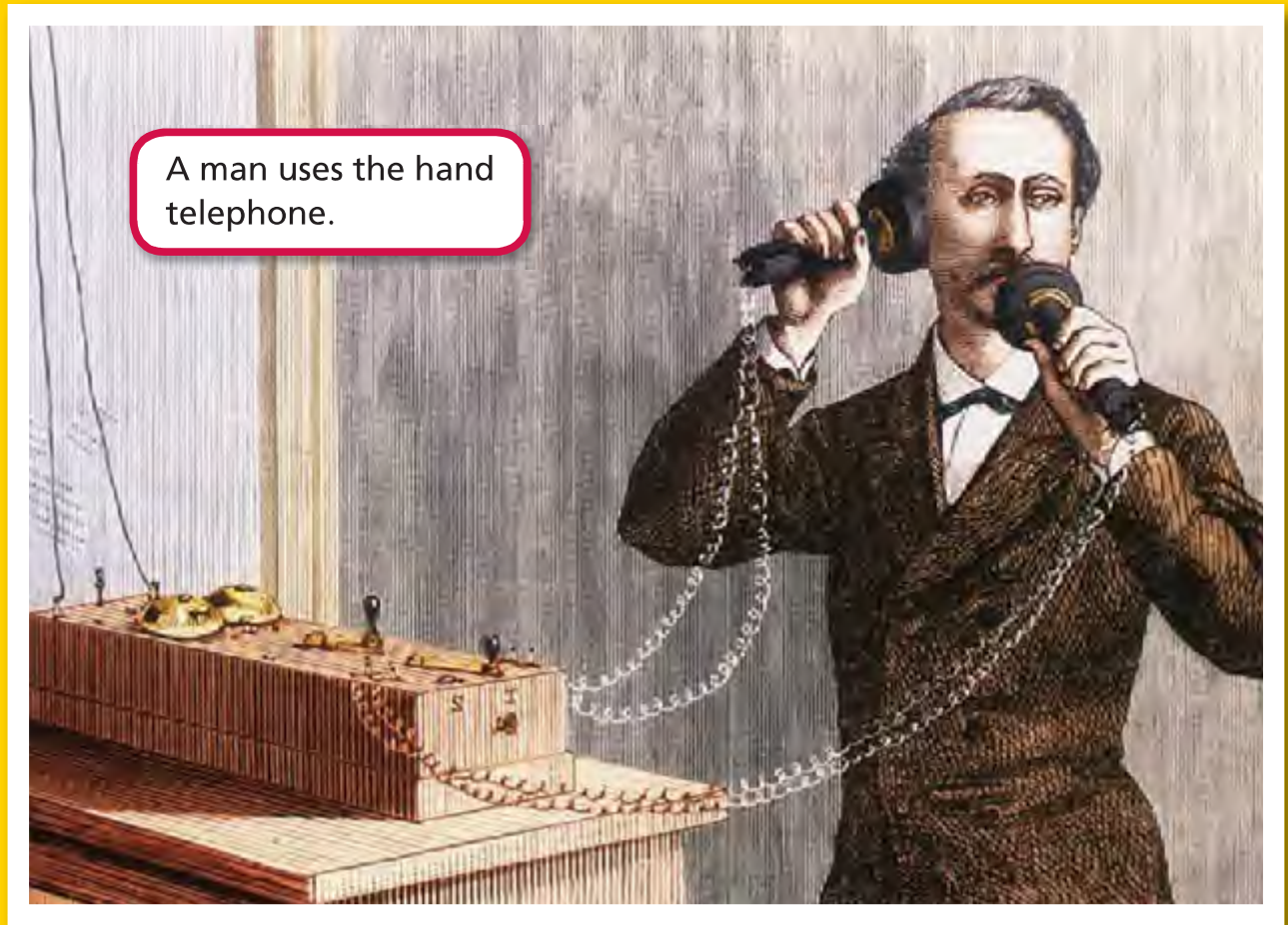
by Keith Reynolds

What can you do if you want to talk to your grandmother, who lives far away? Yes! You can call her on the telephone. It was not always this easy to communicate. Many years ago, people had to write letters to communicate with someone who lived far away. That is because the telephone had not been invented yet.

Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876. This invention changed people's lives.



Alexander Graham Bell demonstrates his invention.



A man uses the hand telephone.

Some of the first telephones were called hand telephones. A caller held the telephone with two hands. The caller spoke into one part of the phone and listened through the other part.

These first telephones did not ring like phones do today. People didn't know when a call was coming in. For this reason, many people did not have telephones. Soon a ringer was invented, and more and more people got telephones in their homes.



A switchboard operator connects telephone wires.

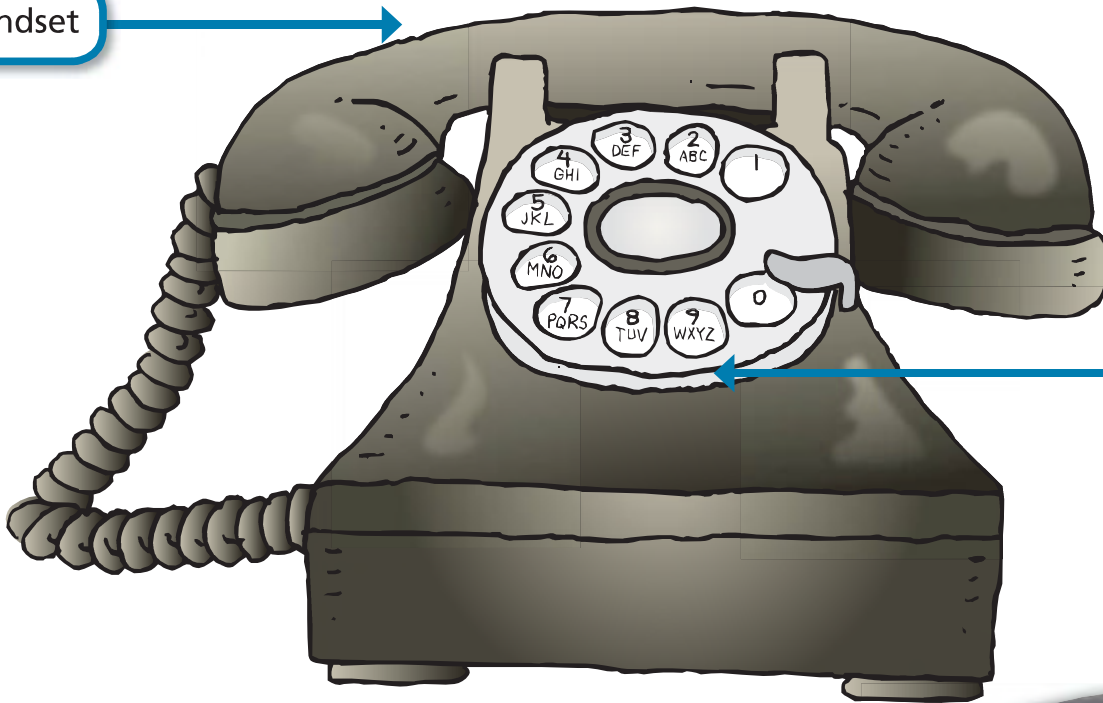
This is how the first phones worked. First, you had to pick up your phone. That would alert a switchboard operator. The operator would then connect the wire for your phone to the wire of the person you wanted to call. When the wires were connected, people could talk to each other.

The rotary phone was invented next. This phone had small holes used to dial the numbers. How did people make a call on this phone?

They would use a dial that had one hole for each number. They put a finger inside a hole and pulled it around as far as it would go. Then they would let go. They repeated this procedure with the rest of the numbers. This is where the phrase *dial the phone* comes from.

Rotary Telephone

handset



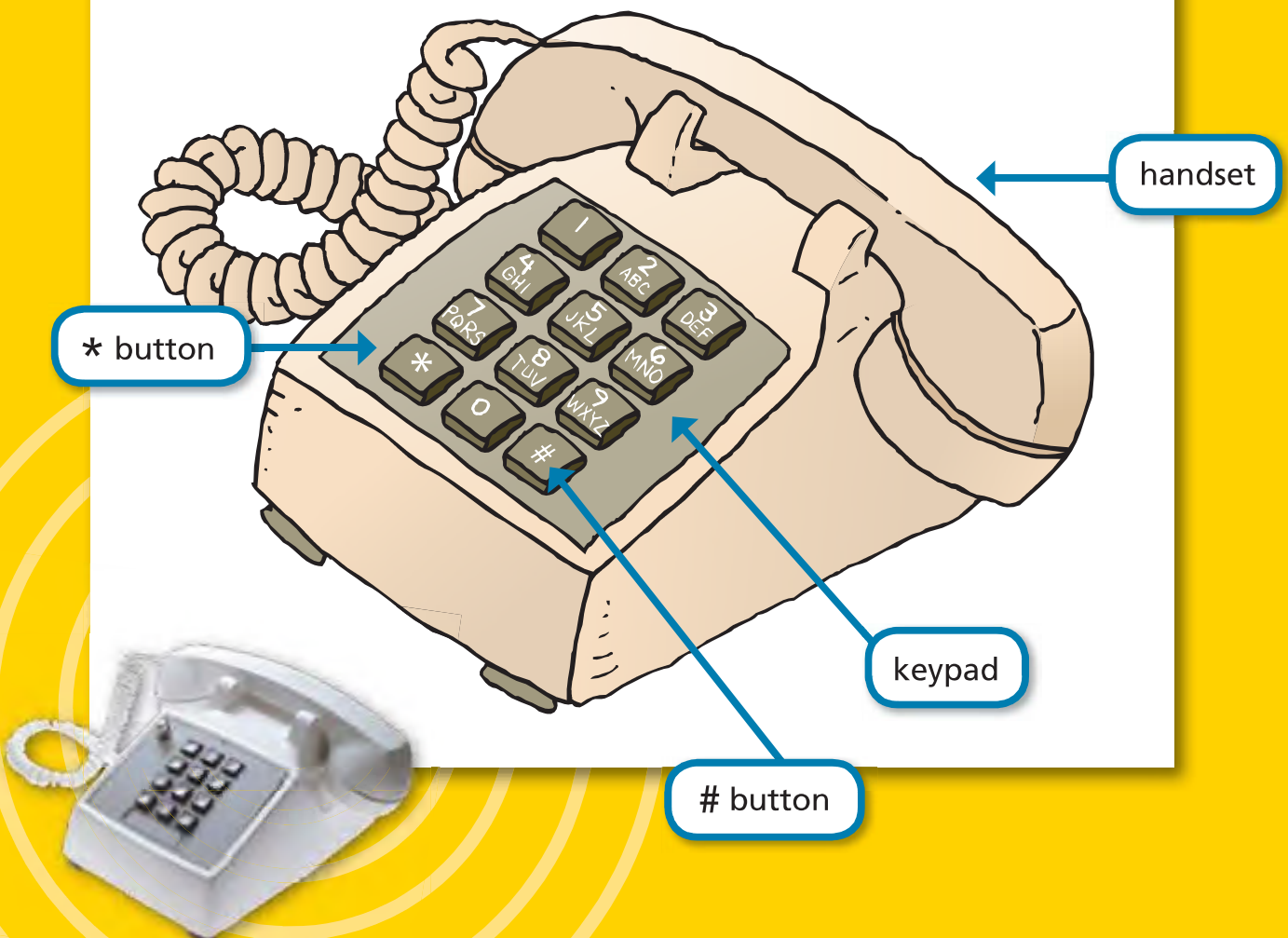
dial



The touch-tone phone was the next model to be invented. People could push the number keys instead of using a dial. The number keys were buttons on the phone.

The first touch-tone phone had a keypad with 10 buttons. Each button had one number on it. The numbers were 0 through 9. A few years later, the # button and the * button were added.

Touch-Tone Telephone



When people talked on a rotary or touch-tone phone, they had to stand or sit near it. That changed when the cordless phone was invented. This phone has a battery inside that can be charged in a base. This new phone allows people to walk around as they talk.

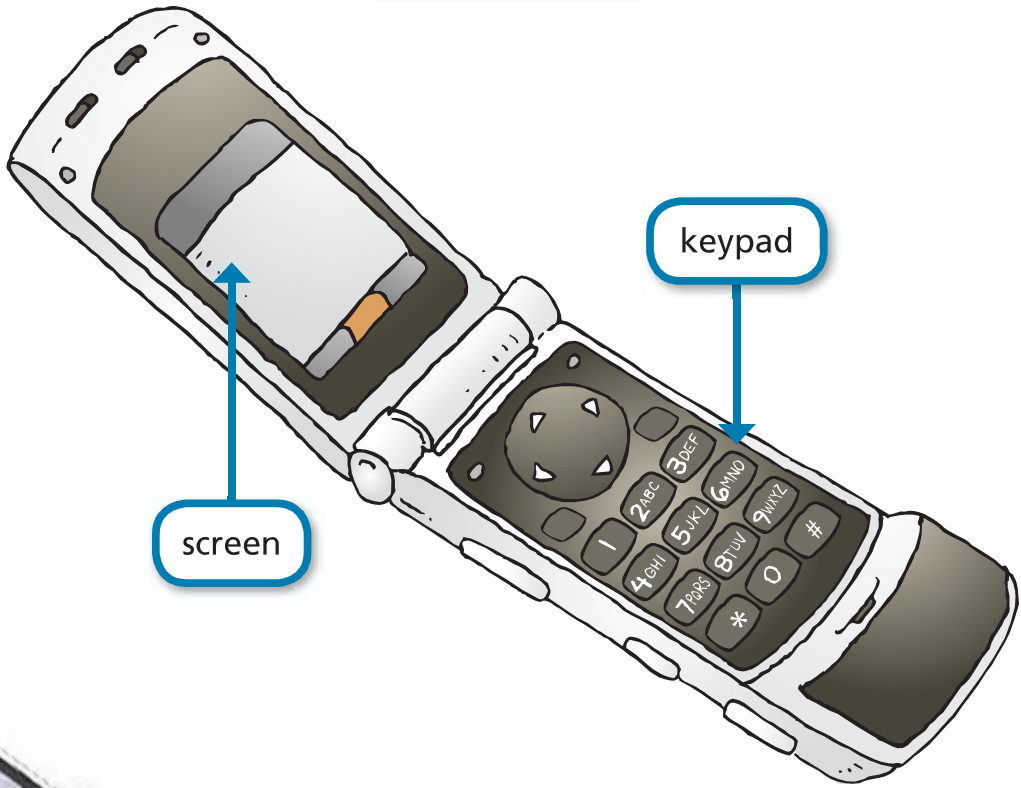
Cordless Telephone



Many people have cordless phones in their homes. Some people don't use home phones, though. Why not? They use cell phones.

The first call on a cell phone was made in 1973. When they were invented, cell phones were very large and expensive. They are much smaller now. Cell phones are not connected to wires. They send signals that travel through the air to a cell tower.

Cell Phone



The telephone has had many changes since its invention in 1876. Some of the first phones looked like big wooden boxes. Today many phones are so small they can fit in your pocket.

Alexander Graham Bell would be very impressed with all of these inventions. Who knows what kind of telephone might come next? Maybe you'll be the one who invents it!



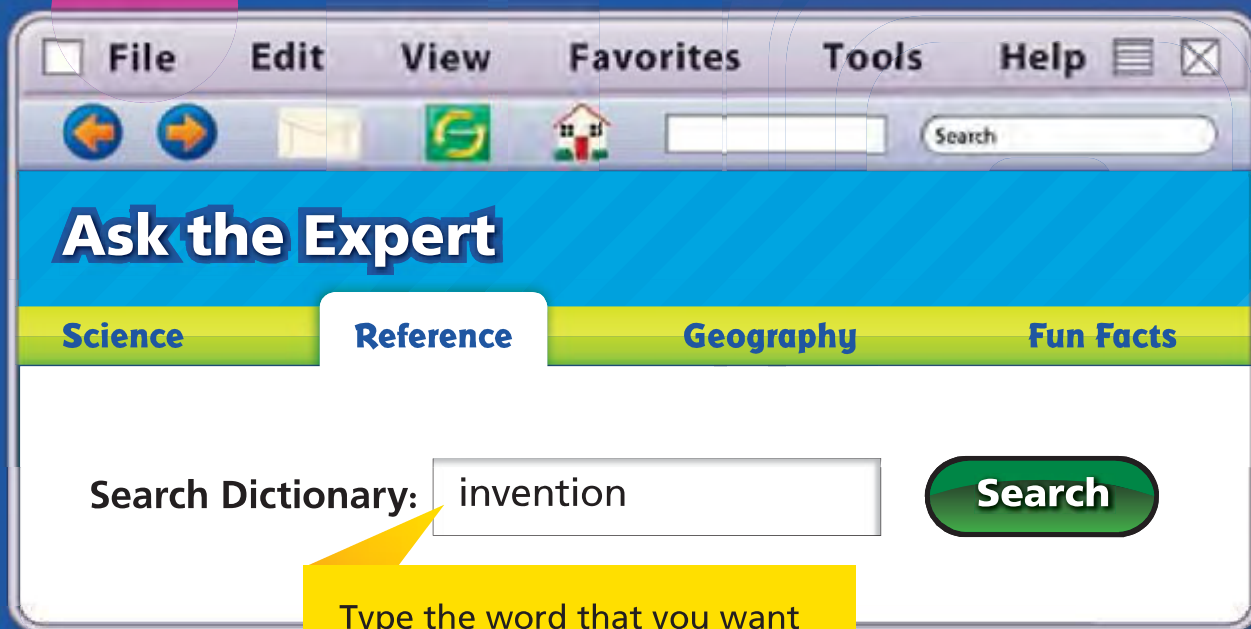
**What's
next?**

Look It Up!

In the article *Who's Calling?*, some words may have been new to you. What do you do if you don't know the meaning of a word? That's right! You look it up!

You can use a dictionary or glossary to find a word's meaning or to make sure a word is spelled correctly. One place to look is an online dictionary. Here is how it works.

1



Type the word that you want to look up into the search box. Click on the "Search" key.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, Help) and a toolbar with navigation icons and a search bar. The page title is "Ask the Expert". Below the title are four tabs: Science, Reference (selected), Geography, and Fun Facts. A search bar labeled "Search Dictionary:" contains the word "invention". To the right of the search bar is a green "Search" button. Below the search bar, there is a speaker icon, the word "invention" followed by "noun", the phonetic transcription "in•ven•tion (ĭn vĕn' shən)", the definition "A new device, system, or process.", and an example sentence: "The invention changed how telephones work."

Read the entry for the meaning or to check the spelling. Remember, some words can have more than one meaning.

It's your turn to look up some words. Write the words *alert*, *procedure*, and *model* on a piece of paper.

Use an online dictionary to find each word and its meaning. If the word has more than one meaning, write down the meaning that is used in *Who's Calling?* Look back in the article if you need to.

Animals Are Heroes, Too

by Susan York Meyers

Many people, such as firefighters and police officers, are everyday heroes. They show courage as they help others. Did you know that animals can be everyday heroes, too?

Most people think of animals as pets, but for many people they are heroes. Animals help people who have disabilities. They also give special care to people who need it. Some animals even save lives. Let's find out more about these amazing animals.



Hearing ear dogs listen for the ring of a telephone or the sound of a smoke detector.



Hearing Ear Dogs

Hearing ear dogs help people who are deaf or who cannot hear well. These dogs are trained to listen for sounds at home, such as the buzz of an alarm clock or the ring of a doorbell. When they hear these sounds, they nudge their owners with their noses to get their attention. When they are outside with their owners, hearing ear dogs react to sounds, such as car horns and sirens. They help keep their owners safe.



Hearing Ear Dogs Are Heroes

- They alert their owners to important sounds.
- They react to noises outside, so that their owners know to pay attention.

Guide Dogs Are Heroes

- They help their owners walk safely.
- They let their owners know when there is danger.

Guide Dogs

Guide dogs help people who are blind or cannot see well. A guide dog learns the sights, sounds, and smells of busy places. Guide dogs can go anywhere their owners need to go. They are trained to follow directions from their owners.

Make sure not to pet or distract a guide dog when it is working.



Guide Dog to the Rescue!



Some guide dogs do more than just help people. They save lives! One guide dog saved its owner from a fire inside her home. A fire started during the night. The dog could tell there was something wrong and woke up its owner. The owner could smell the fire. With the dog's help, she was able to get herself and her family safely outside. The guide dog saved everyone just in time.

Therapy Cats Are Heroes

- They bring a smile to people's faces.
- They help people feel calm.



Therapy Animals

Some animals help people in a different way. These animals are called therapy animals. They help adults and children who may be sick, feeling sad, or who just need a friend. Dogs and cats are great therapy animals, but did you know that horses help people, too? Miniature horses are brought to visit people who need extra care and attention.



Therapy animals can visit schools, libraries, nursing homes, and hospitals.



Llamas are gentle animals.

Cats, dogs, and horses aren't the only therapy animals that bring a smile to people's faces. Have you ever heard of a llama? This animal can be a therapy animal, too. People who may feel shy or alone find that they can make friends with a llama. They can feed the llamas by hand, pet their coats, or give them a hug.

Therapy Llamas Are Heroes

- They visit people who need a friend.
- They help people with disabilities.



Brave Cat Saves the Day!



Animals can be heroes in other ways, too. Would you believe it if someone told you that a cat called 9-1-1? That's right! One special cat saved its owner by calling for help. The owner had fallen and could not get himself to the phone. His cat had been trained to call for help!



Amazing Animals

Animal heroes come in all shapes and sizes. They help people in many ways. Some animals give special kinds of help, while others bring comfort and love to those who need it most. They help keep their owners safe, and sometimes they even save lives. These animals truly are everyday heroes.

Click On It



You have just read an article about different kinds of animal heroes. Sometimes this kind of article can be found on a website. Take a look at this webpage about guide dogs. What do you see?

A webpage may have a menu. Use the menu to choose the part of the article you want to read.



A webpage has icons. Click on icons to find more information.

Use the webpage to help you answer these three questions. Write or draw your answers on a piece of paper. Then work with a partner to compare answers.

- 1 Which icon should you click on to read true stories about guide dogs? Draw a picture of it.
- 2 If you want to see photos, which icon should you click on? Draw a picture of it.
- 3 Look at the menu on the side of the webpage. If you want to find out more about guide dogs at home, what should you click on in this menu?

Work on a computer to look up information about an animal hero. Use the menu and icons on the webpage to help you find facts as you read.





Our Earth, Our Home

by Donald Folkerth

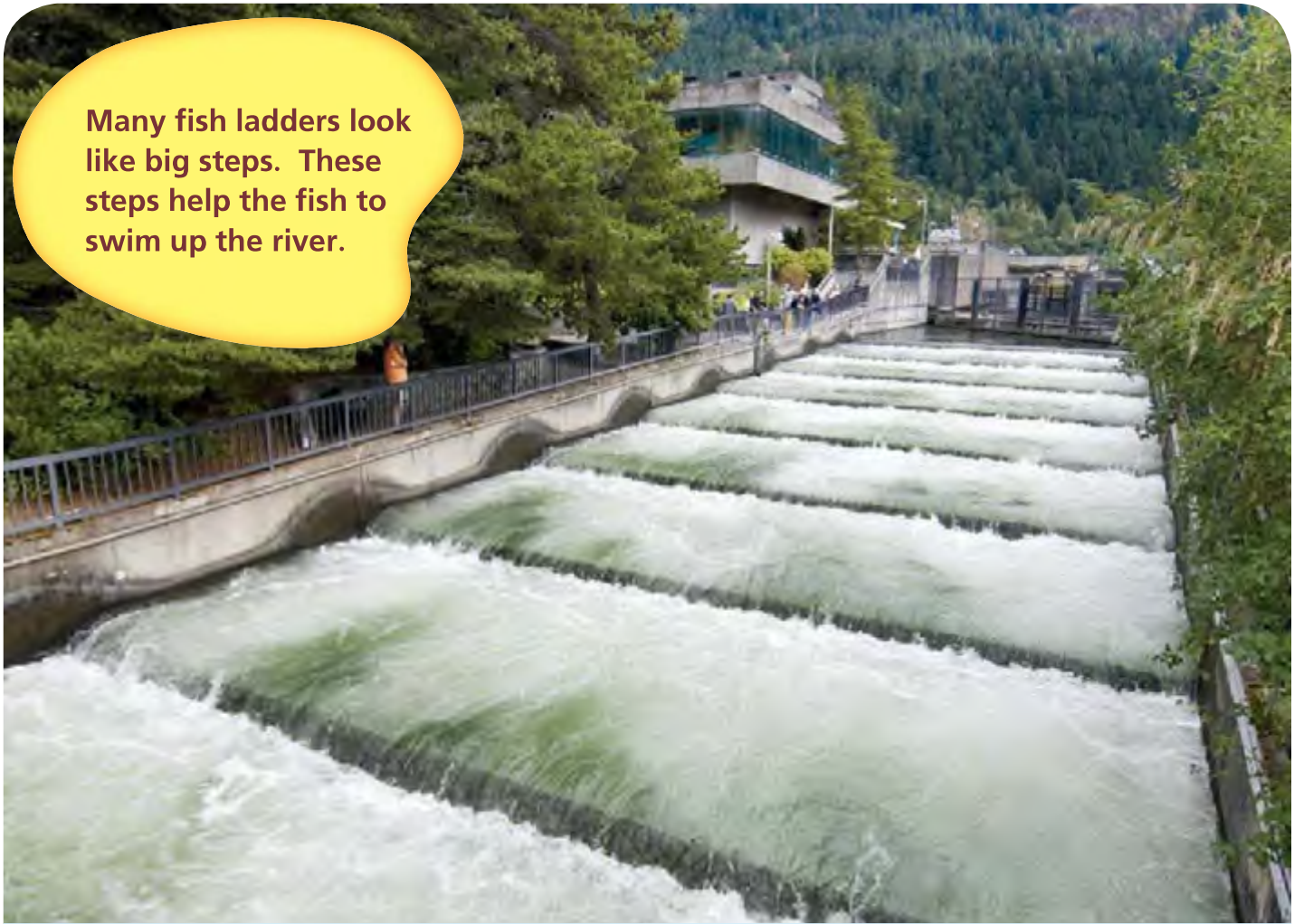
The next time you are outside, look around you. You might see trees, rocks, or a lake. These are all part of the earth. People need the trees and the rocks to make buildings and roads. They may use the water from a lake for drinking water. However, when people use the earth to meet their needs, the earth does not stay the same. How do people change the earth?



Water

People change the earth to get water. When it rains, water flows into springs, lakes, and rivers. People use this water in their homes, especially for water to drink. Sometimes people build a dam across a river to collect the water. What do you think happens to the river when it has a dam?





Many fish ladders look like big steps. These steps help the fish to swim up the river.

A dam can change the way a river flows. Some animals might not get enough water to drink. The dam might prevent leaves and branches from floating down the river. Some animals depend on those things for food and shelter.

Other animals, such as fish, might get stuck on one side of the dam. The good news is that scientists build special stairways or ladders so that fish can swim and jump through the dam. Now people can get water, and fish can still swim up the river!

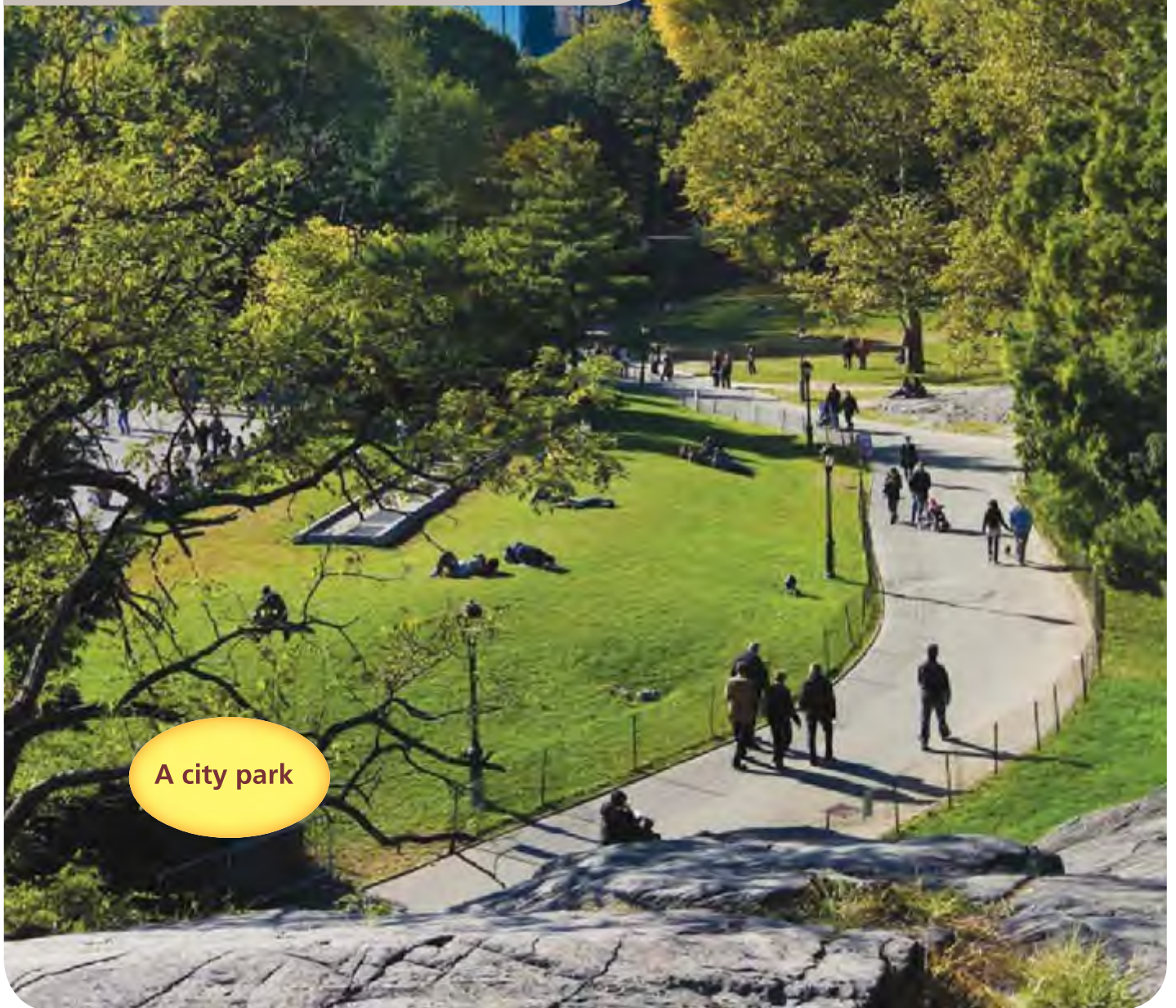
Land

People are always changing the earth. They need places to live, work, and go to school. Homes, offices, and schools must be built. People also need ways to get to different places, so they need to build roads. They have to dig into the earth to make each building and road.

Think about the land around you. What do you think the land was like before your house or school was built?



What would the earth be like if it had just buildings and roads? Some big cities are almost like that. They are filled with buildings and roads, which cover much of the land. People have built parks to protect some of the land. Trees and plants grow in the parks, and animals live there, too.



A city park

Trees

People change the earth when they cut down trees. Trees are an important part of our earth. We can make many things out of wood from trees. In order to use the wood, we must cut the trees down. Sometimes large forests of trees are cut down for wood. Did you ever wonder what happens when we cut down lots of trees? What might happen if we cut them all down?




This book and stool are made out of wood from trees. What other things are made from wood?



If we cut down all the trees, we would not have paper to write on. We would not have shade to protect us from the sun, and the animals that live in trees and forests would have nowhere to live.

People have thought of a way to protect the forests and to grow the trees that we need. They have made places called tree farms. The trees in a tree farm are grown for their wood. Imagine a farm of just trees!

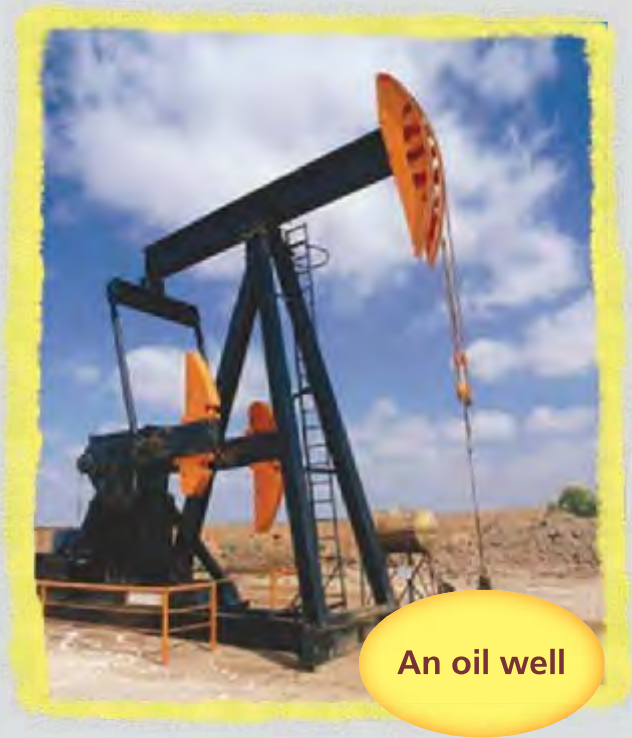


This tree farm has full-grown trees and trees that have just been planted.

Oil

People change the earth when they use oil and gas. Do you ride a bus to school? Maybe your family drives a car instead. Both buses and cars need gasoline to run. People make gasoline from oil. Oil and gas are used every day for heating and cooking, too.

Oil is found deep in the earth. People use machines that dig down into the earth to get the oil. What happens to the earth when we dig?



An oil well



When machines dig underground to get oil, the earth can get damaged. The machines dig holes and break apart rocks and dirt that are deep in the earth.

When oil is burned to make a car go, it makes smoke. This smoke is called pollution. Cars, trucks, and buses make pollution in the air. What can you do to help? Can you think of a way your family can use less oil or gas?



We Can Help the Earth

People make many changes to the earth. We use the water from rivers. We build roads and buildings. We cut down trees, and we dig into the earth for oil.

People can help the earth, too. How can you help? Could you use less water and less paper? Maybe you could recycle things. It is important that we all do our part to help our earth.






What Should You Say?


Think about the words you use when you talk to an adult. Do you talk differently when you talk to your friends? When you talk or write to an adult, you probably try harder to follow the rules of grammar. This is called formal English. With your friends, you probably use informal English.

Are these people using formal or informal English?

A woman wearing a tan park ranger hat and a light-colored button-down shirt is talking to a young girl with curly hair wearing a pink shirt. The background is orange.

Did you enjoy your field trip to Ames State Park today?

Yes. I learned a lot about trees and animals.

Two young girls are talking to each other. One is wearing a light green shirt and the other is wearing a pink shirt. The background is blue.

Hey! Was the field trip fun?

Yeah. I saw huge trees and the cutest bunny!

Work with a partner. Look at each scene below. Decide whether each person should use formal or informal English. On a piece of paper, write what each person is saying.

1. at the library



2. at a friend's house



3. at school



Tips

- Use informal English with friends and family.
- Use formal English at school and with adults.
- When you write something for school, you should usually make it formal.

Cinderella

by Sheila Sweeny Higginson
illustrated by Donald Wu



Once upon a time, there lived a girl named Cinderella. Cinderella was smart, kind, and beautiful. Her father loved her very much, and she loved him.

Cinderella had a stepmother and two stepsisters, too. Sadly, they did not love Cinderella at all. They were very jealous of her, and they were never kind.

Whenever there was work to do, Cinderella had to do it. She mopped the floors every day until they were clean and shiny. She washed all the dirty dishes. She dusted, scrubbed, and polished every single thing in the house. Cinderella worked very hard to make her stepmother happy.



One day, Cinderella's family received an invitation to a ball. The prince was having a fancy dance. He was inviting all the young women in the kingdom.

Cinderella's stepsisters were incredibly excited. "Get me my red velvet dress, Cinderella!" one stepsister commanded.

"Of course," Cinderella replied.

"Polish my diamond necklace!" the other stepsister hollered.

"At your service," Cinderella said quietly.

Cinderella ironed her stepsisters' dresses. She brushed their hair and fixed their bows. She shined their shoes. Then she waved good-bye as they skipped off to the ball. Cinderella was not allowed to go.

After everyone left the house, Cinderella sat alone by the fireplace. Tears streamed down her beautiful face as she wept.

“Oh, how I wish I could go to the ball,” Cinderella sobbed. “I wish I had a beautiful dress to wear.”

Just then, a tiny woman with wings flew through the window. She had a wand in her hand. It was Cinderella’s fairy godmother!

“Why are you crying, my dear?” the fairy godmother asked Cinderella.

“I want to go to the ball, too,” cried Cinderella.

“Then you shall go!” said the fairy godmother.





Cinderella's fairy godmother waved her wand in the air. *Poof!* An ordinary pumpkin transformed into a magnificent golden coach.

The fairy godmother waved her wand again. *Zap!* A rat became a handsome coachman, and six mice turned into a team of horses to pull the coach.

The fairy godmother waved her wand one last time. *Whoosh!* Cinderella's old, worn-out clothes disappeared. Now she wore a beautiful pink and silver gown. Two glimmering glass slippers appeared on Cinderella's tiny feet.

Cinderella smiled as she looked at herself in the mirror. She felt pretty in her new clothes.



“What are you waiting for?” the fairy godmother asked Cinderella. “You need to get to the ball! Just make sure you come home by midnight.”

The prince saw Cinderella as soon as she entered the ballroom. He could not believe his eyes. She was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen.

The prince asked Cinderella to dance. They moved around the ballroom, talking and dancing and dancing and talking. The prince soon discovered that Cinderella was smart and kind, and he fell completely in love with her. Cinderella learned that the prince was good and noble. Cinderella fell in love with him, too.



Soon enough, the clock began to strike midnight in the ballroom. Cinderella gasped and turned to race out of the castle. As she ran out, one of her glass slippers fell off her foot. Cinderella did not stop to get it, for she knew that the gifts from her fairy godmother would vanish soon.

The prince rushed after Cinderella, but he couldn't catch her. He picked up the glass slipper and sighed. It was the most beautiful shoe in the kingdom. It belonged on the foot of the girl he loved. He vowed to find Cinderella and marry her.

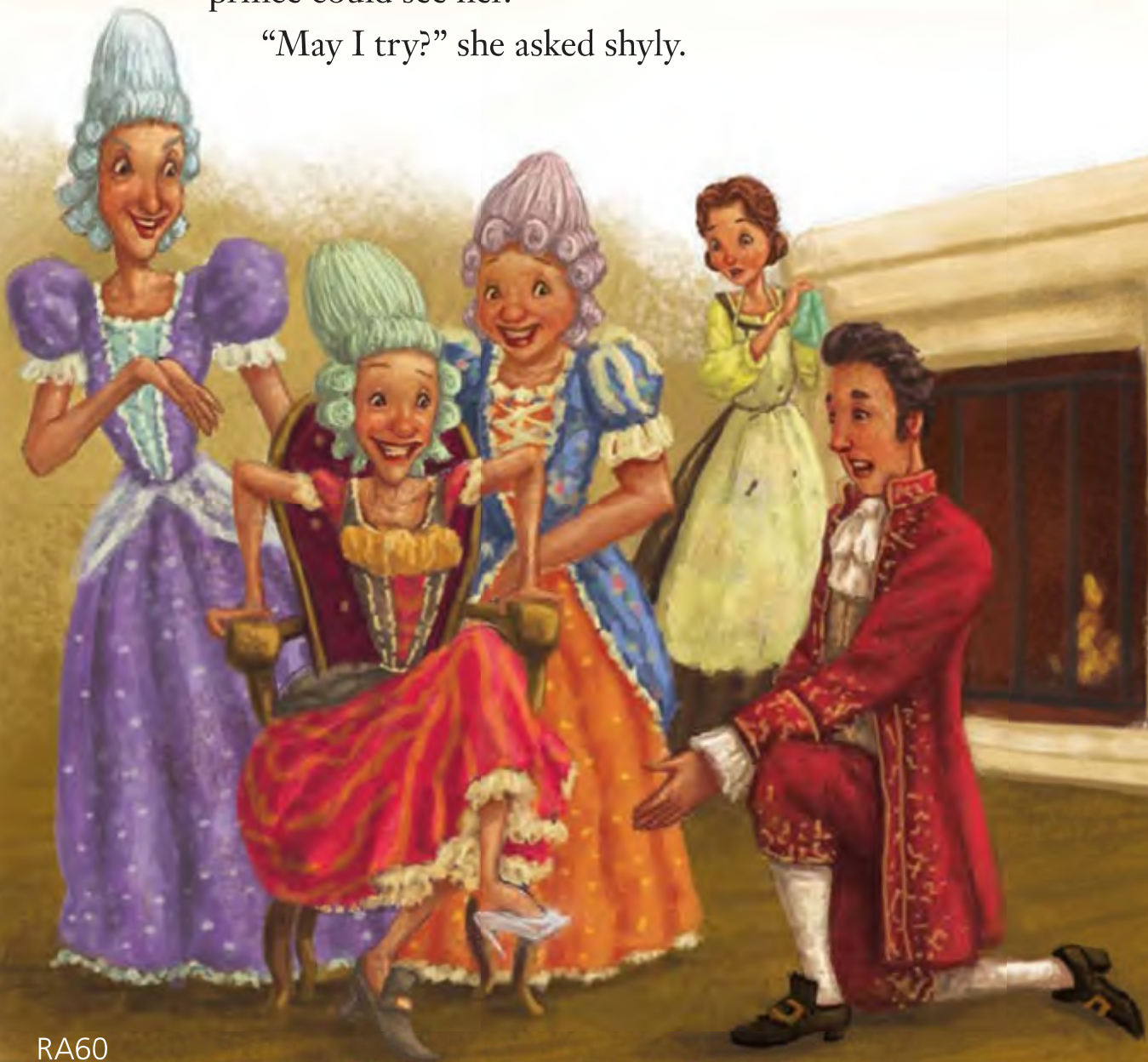


The prince was true to his word. With the glass slipper in hand, he knocked on every door in the kingdom. He was looking for the girl whose foot would fit into the slipper. He knew that girl was his true love.

Every girl wished the slipper would fit, especially Cinderella's stepsisters. The stepsisters tugged and pulled on the slipper. They pushed with all their might, but they could not fit their big feet into the slipper.

Cinderella watched her stepsisters as she stood next to the fireplace. At last, she stepped out so that the prince could see her.

“May I try?” she asked shyly.



The prince knelt down in front of Cinderella and held out the glass slipper. Cinderella placed her foot into the slipper, and it fit her perfectly. However, the prince did not need to see that. He looked into Cinderella's eyes. He knew that she was his true love.

The prince took Cinderella back to his castle, and they were married the next day. Then Cinderella, who was always kind, invited her father, her stepmother, and her stepsisters to live with the prince and her in the castle.

They all lived happily ever after.



Yeh-Shen

by Gina Sabella illustrated by Jill Dubin

Yeh-Shen was a girl who grew up in China a long, long time ago. Her mother and father had died, so she lived with her mean stepmother, Jin, and her stepsister, Jun-li. They lived in a cave.

Every time Jin looked at Yeh-Shen, she became angry. Yeh-Shen was more gentle and kind than her own daughter, Jun-li. Yeh-Shen was also a hard worker. Jun-li was spoiled and lazy.

Jin gave Yeh-Shen only rags to wear. She gave her long lists of chores to do. When Yeh-Shen finished one chore, Jin added three more to the list.

Yeh-Shen was always busy working. She did not have a chance to make many friends, but she did have one very special friend. This friend had golden eyes, shiny scales, and a big beautiful tail. It was a fish that lived in the pond. Every day Yeh-Shen stopped by the pond and shared some crumbs with the fish. Every day the fish popped up to greet its friend.

Yeh-Shen's stepmother saw this and became furious. She didn't want Yeh-Shen to have any friends, not even a fish! One day, Jin caught the fish and cooked it for dinner.

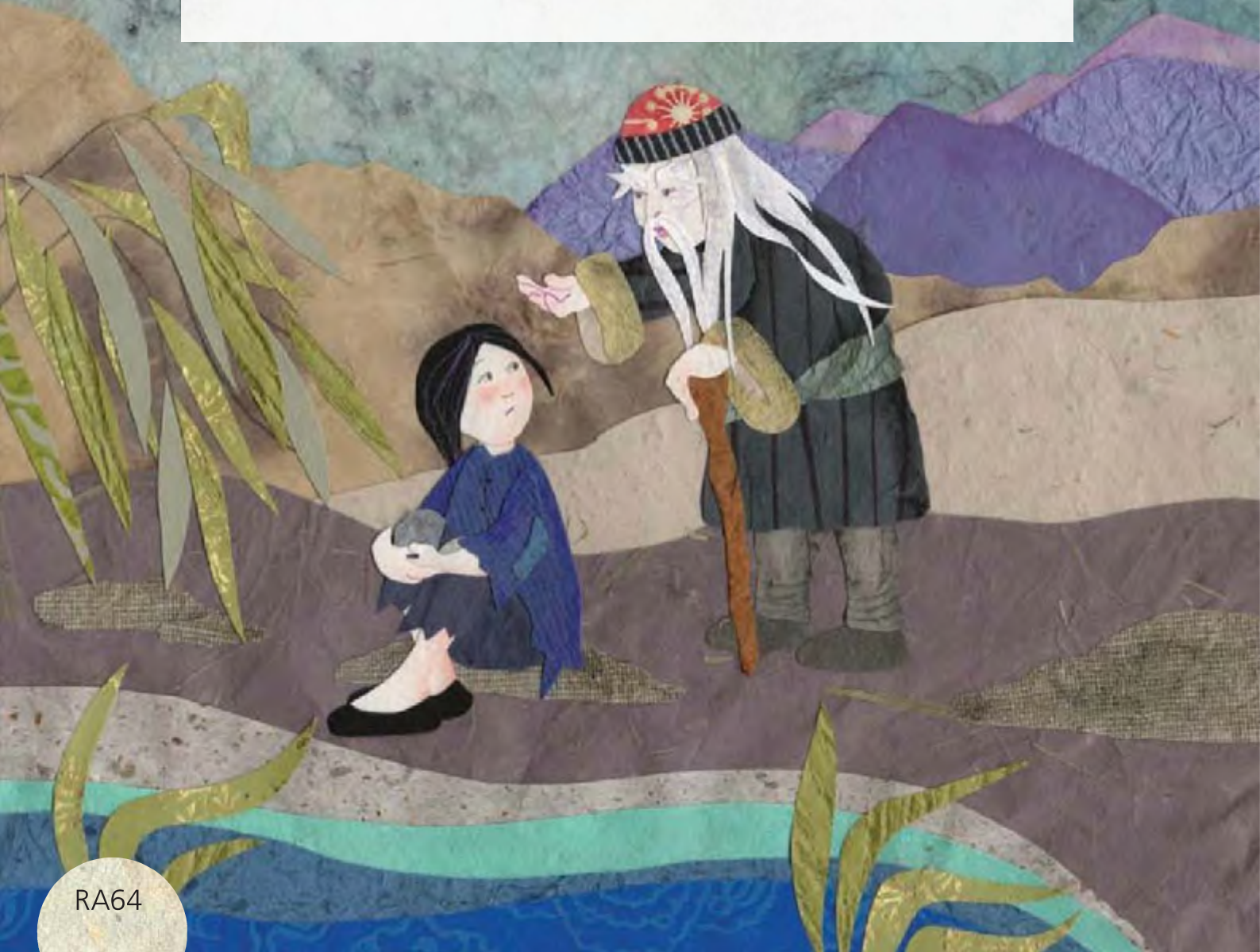


Yeh-Shen cried when she saw her friend served for dinner. She ran out of the cave and sat by the pond.

“What’s the matter?” an old man asked her.

Yeh-Shen told him about her friend, the fish. Then she told him what her stepmother had done.

“Listen carefully to me,” the old man said. “The bones of that fish hold special powers. Take the bones and bury them in four pots. Put one pot at each corner of your bed. Whenever you need help, tell the bones what you need. They will make your every wish come true.”

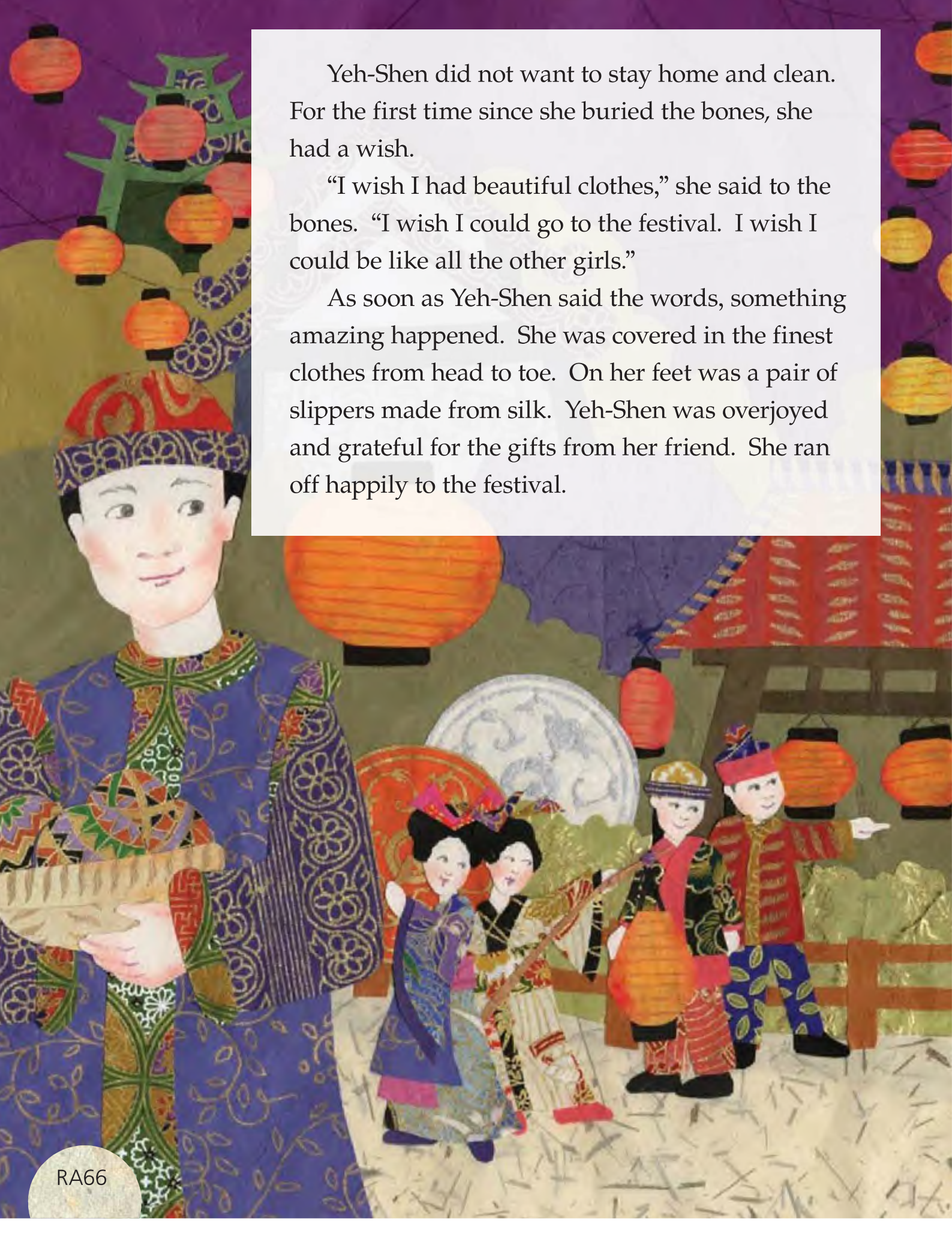


Yeh-Shen followed the old man's directions. When she got back to the cave, she buried the bones in four pots. Then she put the pots by the corners of her bed. She did not have anything to ask for yet, but she felt happy that her friend was close by.

A few weeks later, the spring festival arrived. At the festival, young men and women could meet. They hoped to fall in love and marry.

Jin didn't want to ruin Jun-li's chances of finding a husband, so she ordered Yeh-Shen to stay home and clean. Then she and Jun-li went to the festival.



The illustration depicts a vibrant festival scene. In the foreground, a young boy named Yeh-Shen is shown from the chest up, wearing a blue robe with intricate green and gold patterns and a red and blue patterned hat. He has a joyful expression. In the background, several other people in traditional Chinese attire are visible, including two women in purple and gold dresses and a man in a red and blue outfit. The scene is decorated with numerous orange and red lanterns hanging from the ceiling. A large, full moon is visible in the background, and the overall atmosphere is festive and celebratory.

Yeh-Shen did not want to stay home and clean. For the first time since she buried the bones, she had a wish.

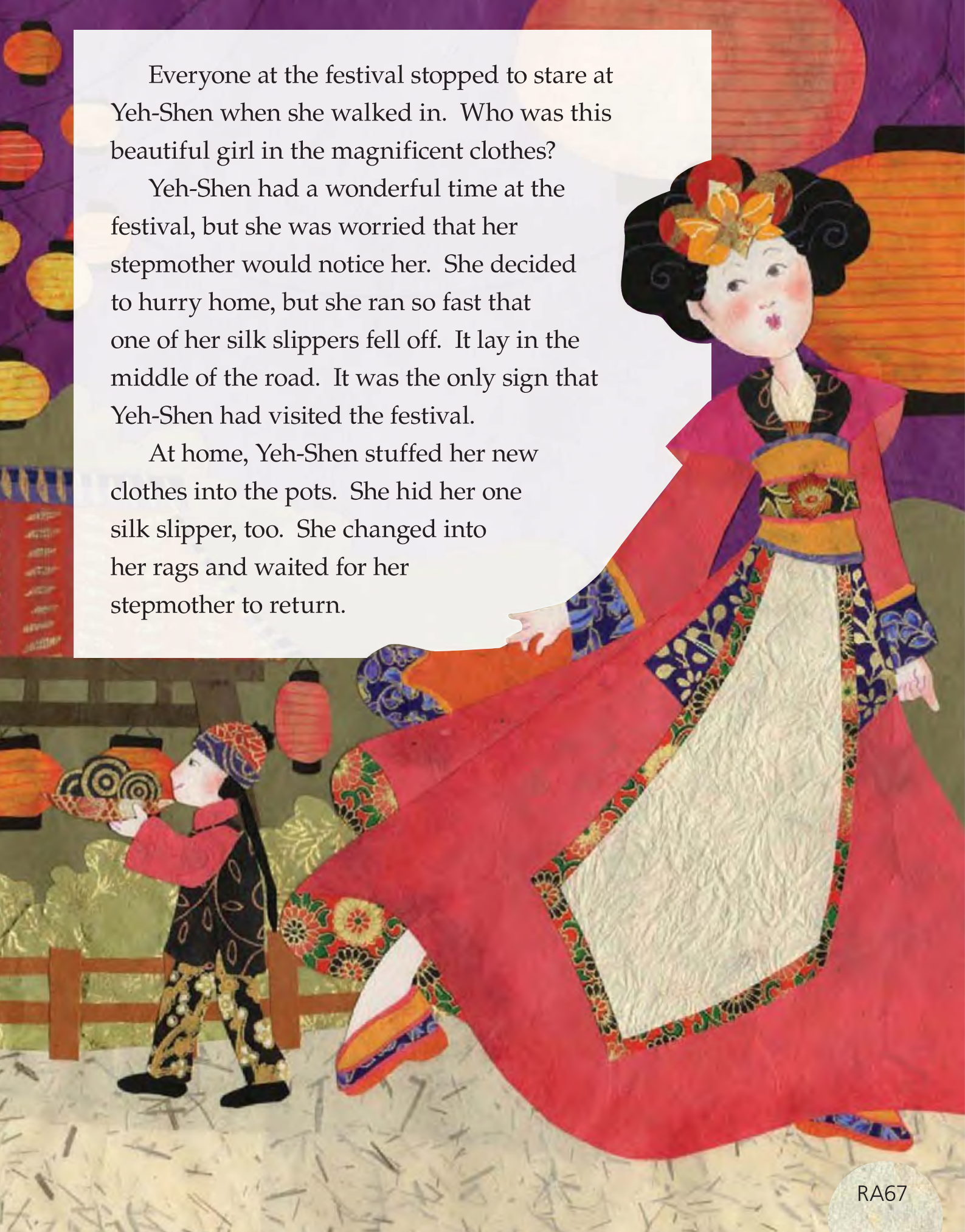
“I wish I had beautiful clothes,” she said to the bones. “I wish I could go to the festival. I wish I could be like all the other girls.”


As soon as Yeh-Shen said the words, something amazing happened. She was covered in the finest clothes from head to toe. On her feet was a pair of slippers made from silk. Yeh-Shen was overjoyed and grateful for the gifts from her friend. She ran off happily to the festival.

Everyone at the festival stopped to stare at Yeh-Shen when she walked in. Who was this beautiful girl in the magnificent clothes?

Yeh-Shen had a wonderful time at the festival, but she was worried that her stepmother would notice her. She decided to hurry home, but she ran so fast that one of her silk slippers fell off. It lay in the middle of the road. It was the only sign that Yeh-Shen had visited the festival.

At home, Yeh-Shen stuffed her new clothes into the pots. She hid her one silk slipper, too. She changed into her rags and waited for her stepmother to return.





Meanwhile, a traveler found the silk slipper on the road. He knew it was valuable, so he gave it to the king. The king was curious to find the owner of the slipper, so he had his men build a hut. Anyone could come to this hut to try on the silk slipper.

Yeh-Shen heard about the hut. She wanted her slipper back, so she sneaked out of the cave one night and ran quietly to the hut. As she crept toward the slipper, the king's men grabbed her.

The king took one look at Yeh-Shen's rags and thought she was a thief.



Yeh-Shen looked up at the king. Her eyes were filled with tears. The king saw how gentle and kind she was. He listened to her words.

“Please, I will show you the other slipper,” Yeh-Shen whispered to the king.

Yeh-Shen led the king to her home. She put on the matching silk slipper and her fine clothes. The king knew then that he wanted to marry her. However, he was angry at how Jin and Jun-li had treated Yeh-Shen. He told them *never* to come to his castle, so they stayed in their cave for the rest of their lives.



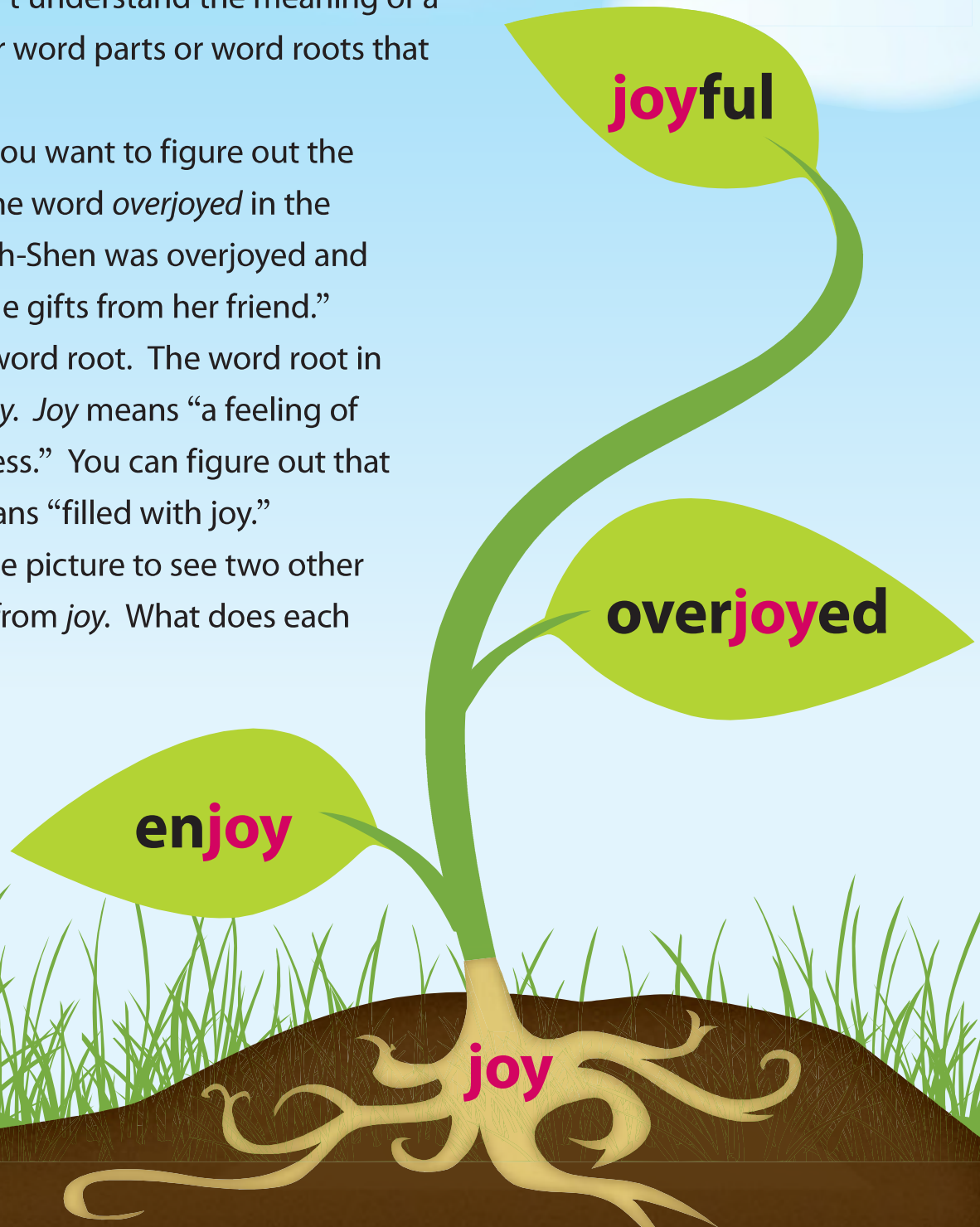


Get to the **Root** of It

If you don't understand the meaning of a word, look for word parts or word roots that you do know.

Let's say you want to figure out the meaning of the word *overjoyed* in the sentence, "Yeh-Shen was overjoyed and grateful for the gifts from her friend." Look for the word root. The word root in *overjoyed* is *joy*. *Joy* means "a feeling of great happiness." You can figure out that *overjoyed* means "filled with joy."

Look at the picture to see two other words made from *joy*. What does each word mean?



On separate index cards, write words that have the word roots below. Use your print or online dictionaries if you need help finding words. What does each new word mean?

Word Root	Meaning
appear	to be seen
kind	helpful
invite	to ask to come
joy	great happiness

With a partner, mix up the cards and use them to play a game. Match pairs of words that have the same word root. Keep playing until you have matched all the cards. Then take turns using each word in a sentence.

joyful
overjoyed

enjoy

joy

Credits

Photo Credits

KEY: (t) top, (b) bottom, (l) left, (r) right, (c) center, (bg) background, (fg) foreground, (i) inset

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