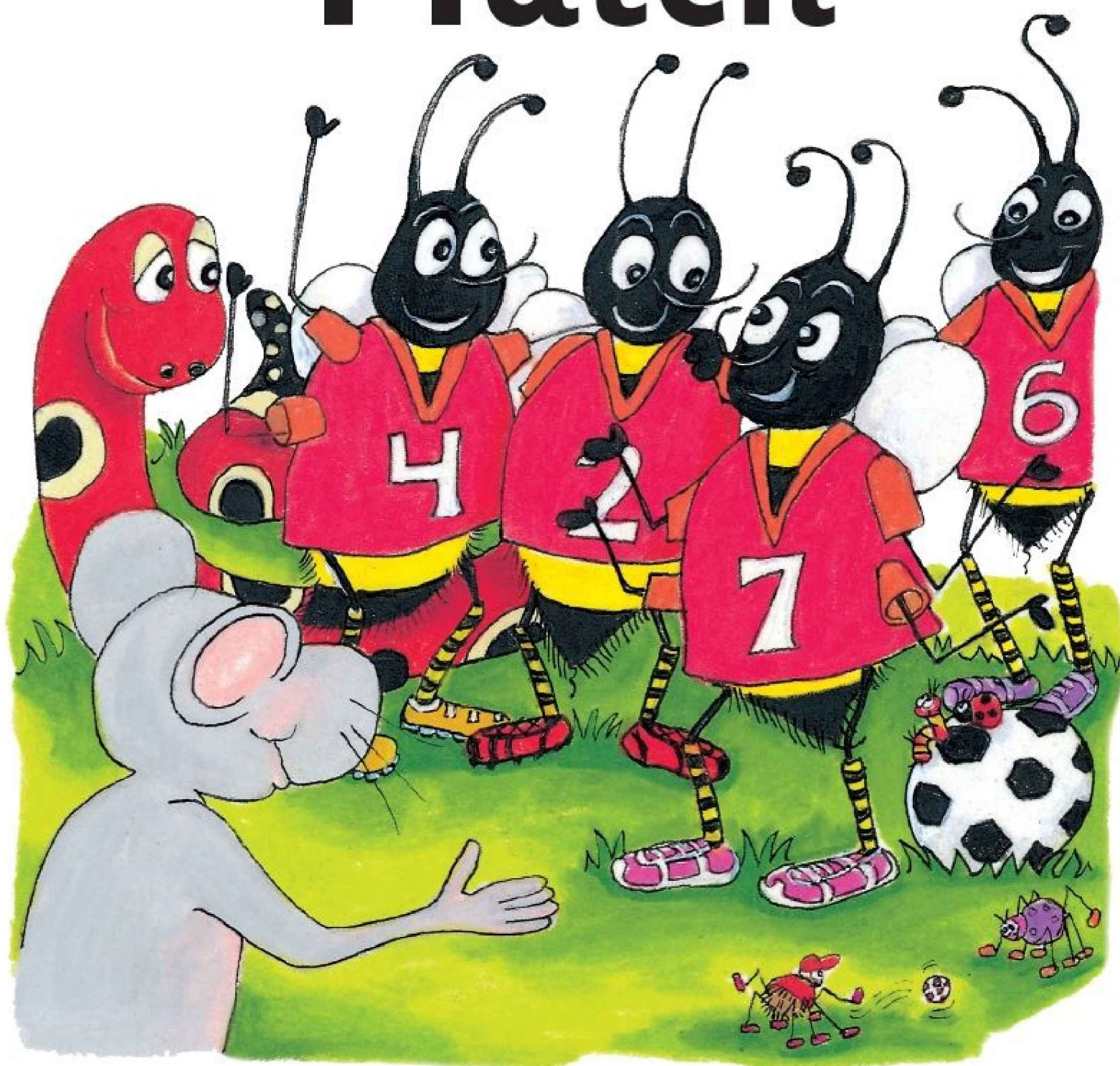


Inky Mouse & Friends

# An Inter-Hive Match



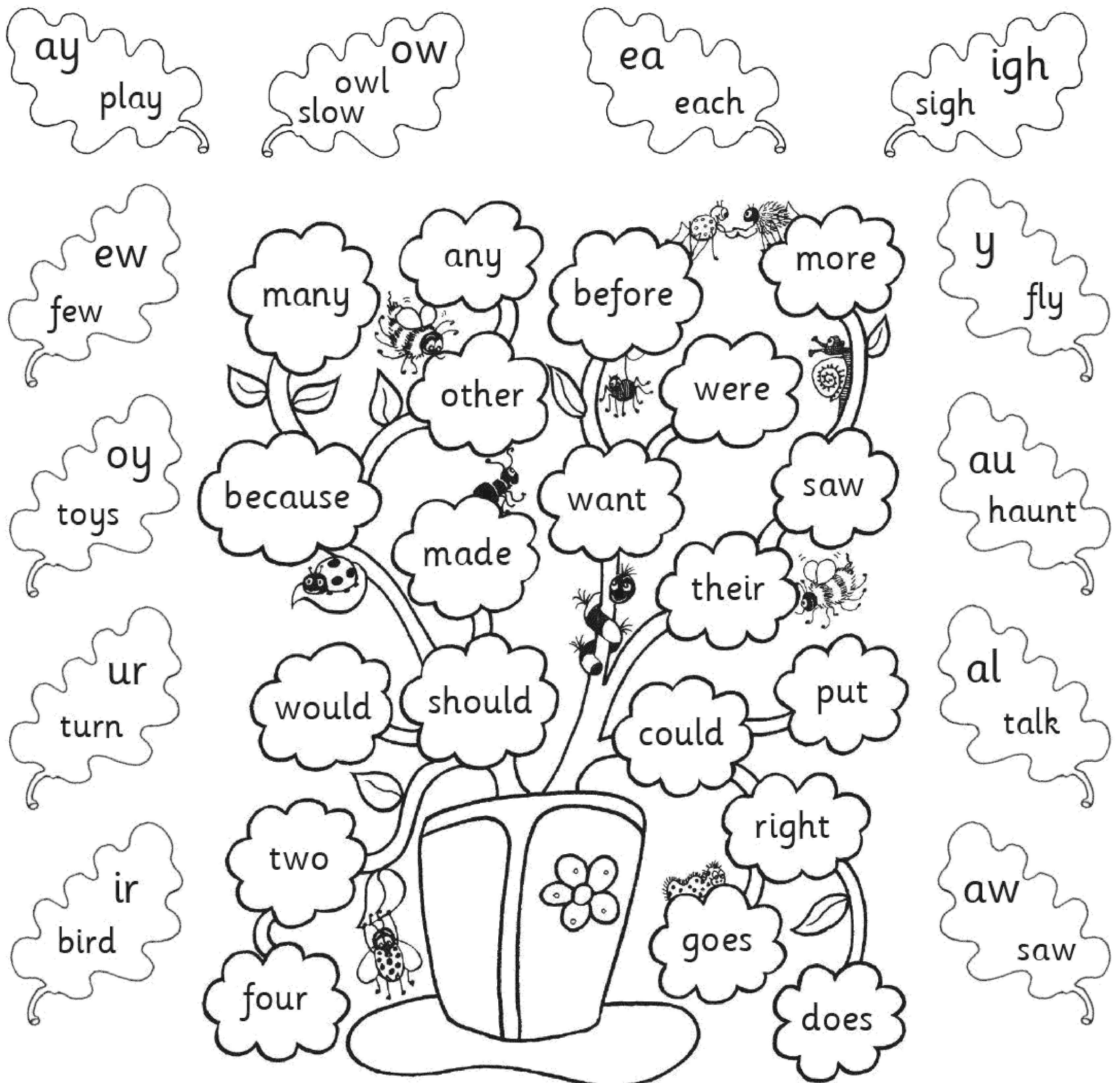
Jolly  
Phonics



## Teachers and parents

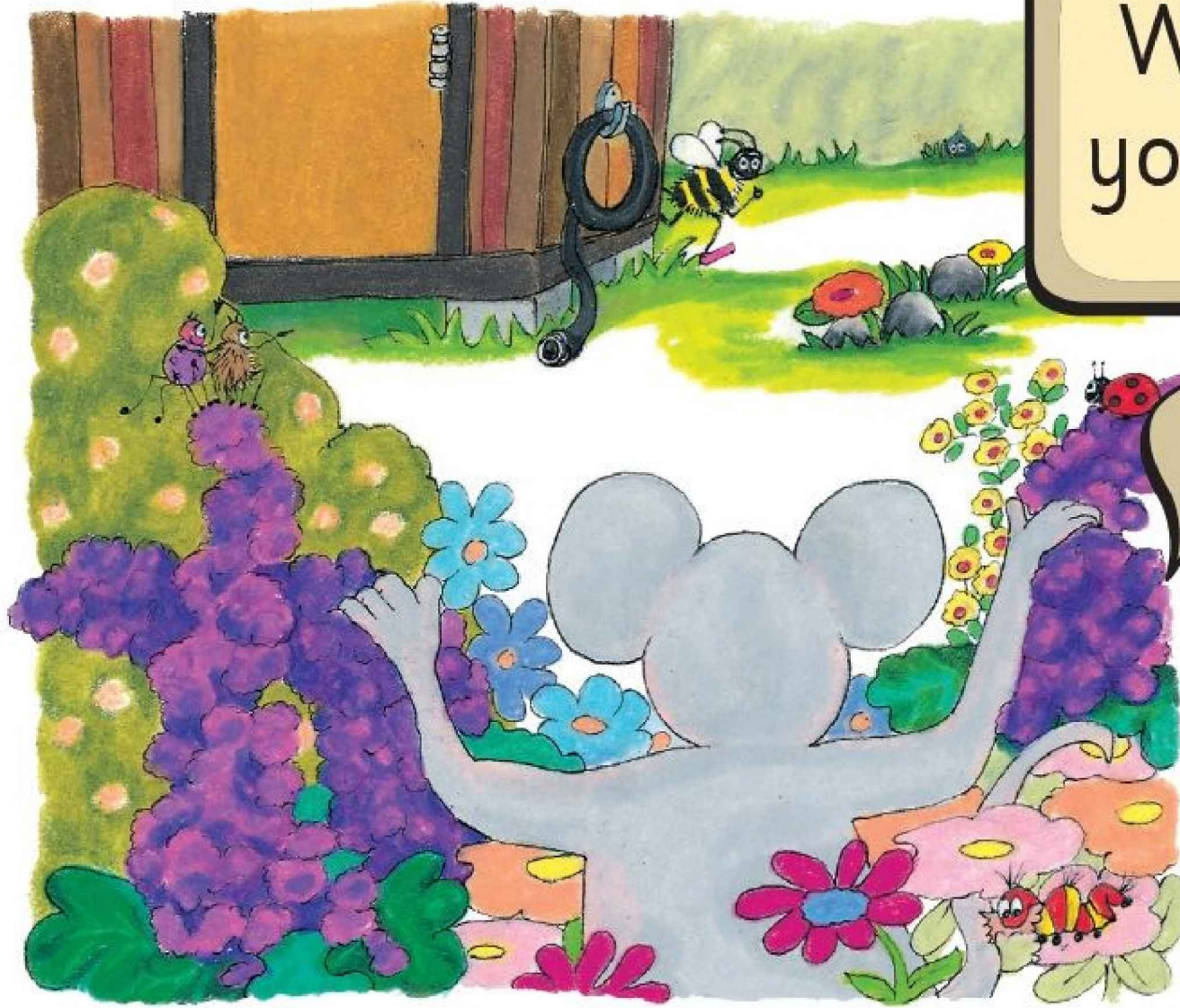
Before tackling these Blue Level Readers, a child will need to be able to:

- Recognise the basic 42 letter sounds, <y> as in *happy*, the 'hop-over <e>' digraphs in words like *take*, *these*, *bike*, *code* and *mule*, and the other main alternative vowel spellings in the leaves below;
- Read (blend) regular words containing these letter sounds;
- Recognise the twenty tricky words shown in the flowers below;
- Recognise the names of the three main characters, as well as Phonic.





Inky was in the garden, looking at the flowers and listening to the buzzing of the bees.



What are you doing?

The buzzing was getting louder and Inky could see Bee jogging around the side of the shed. Inky looked puzzled and called out to Bee, "What are you doing? Bees fly, not jog!"

"I am in training," called back Bee, and she jogged off.



Inky frowned. Then Snake arrived, looking puzzled.

“Have you ever seen a bee running?” he enquired.

“Funny you should say that,” said Inky, “but yes, just now.”

“Bees never run anywhere,” said Snake.

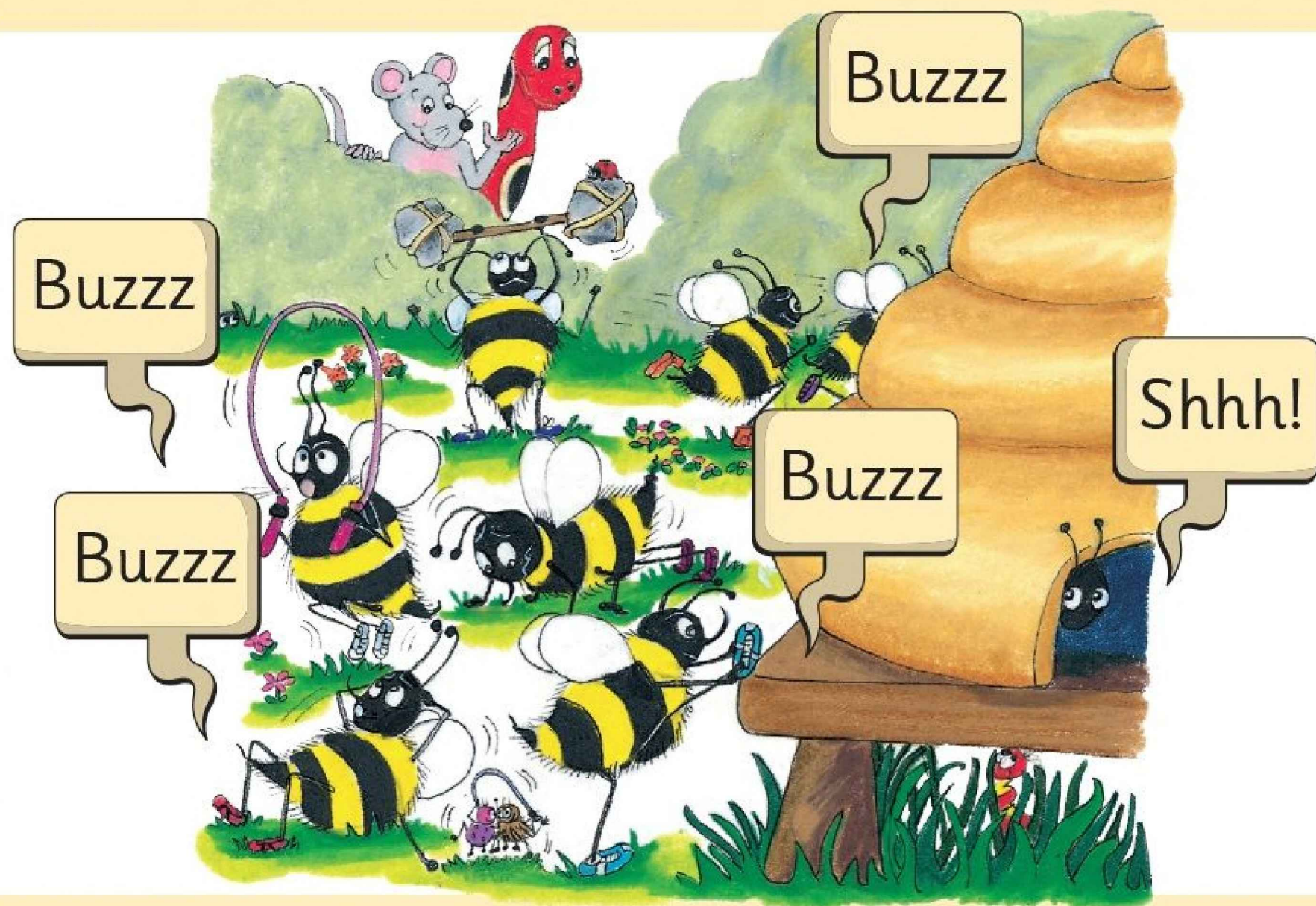
“No,” agreed Inky. “What can Bee be up to?”





“I think we should amble across to Bee’s hive and see what is going on,” said Snake.

As they got to the hive, they could see lots of bees, and they were all running, jumping and skipping.



“What are they all doing?” hissed Snake to Inky. “You would think they were fit already, with all that buzzing about they do!”



They found Bee sitting by the door of the hive, panting.

“What has got into all you bees?” said Snake. “I know you bees are always doing things, but this is silly.”

“I feel out of breath just looking at you all,” added Inky.







“We are in training,” gasped Bee.

“In training!” exclaimed Inky and Snake. “For what?”

“The inter-hive soccer match. Our hive plays the hive on the other side of the orchard. It’s for the Pollen Cup.”





“Only the best players get picked for the team,” continued Bee, “and every bee wants to play. The orchard hive have been the winners three times. We are determined to beat them. The team will be picked tomorrow.”

Snake and Inky wished Bee good luck.



“I made it! I made it!” buzzed Bee as she rushed up to Inky and Snake the next day.

“Made what?” said Snake from where he was lying, enjoying the sun. “Can we eat it? I could do with a snack.”

“No, silly,” buzzed Bee. “I made the soccer team. I am going to play in the match!”





On Saturday, Inky and Snake made their way to the orchard, where the match was to be played. The bees were all waiting for the match to start.



Suddenly, there was a loud buzzing cheer from the crowd and the two teams ran out onto the pitch. Bee's team had a red strip, and the orchard hive's team were in blue.



The referee blew his whistle and the match began. Bee's red team scored first, and it was Bee who scored the goal!

Snake, Inky and all the red supporters cheered loudly, but then the blue team got the ball.

Yes!





Bee tackled, got the ball and ran down the wing. Just before she reached the goal, she was tackled and the blue team got the ball again.



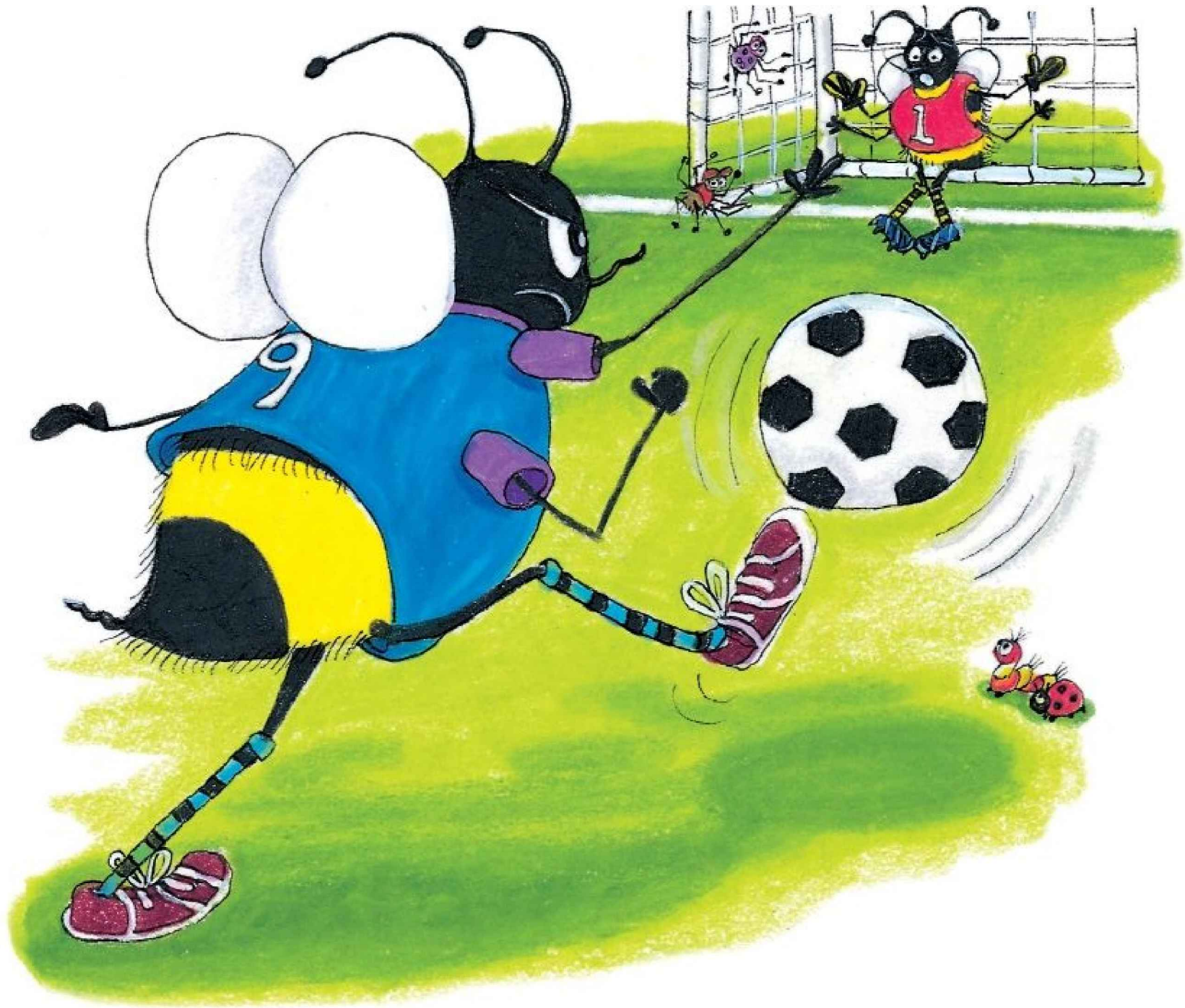




The ball crossed the Reds' goal and a bee from the Blues kicked it. The Reds' supporters groaned, but the keeper saved the ball. Inky and Snake clapped and cheered with the rest of the Reds.



The red team kicked off quickly and hurtled down the pitch. A bee from the blue team rushed and tackled.



The Blues were now heading back down to the goal, while the orchard hive supporters clapped and shouted. Then a big bee from the blue team kicked and scored!



When the whistle blew at the end of the match, the score was two-two. It was a draw.

“What happens now?” said Inky.

“It goes to a penalty shoot-out,” hissed Snake.

“A what?” said Inky.

“The teams take it in turns to shoot at the goal and the first team to miss has lost the game,” hissed back Snake.





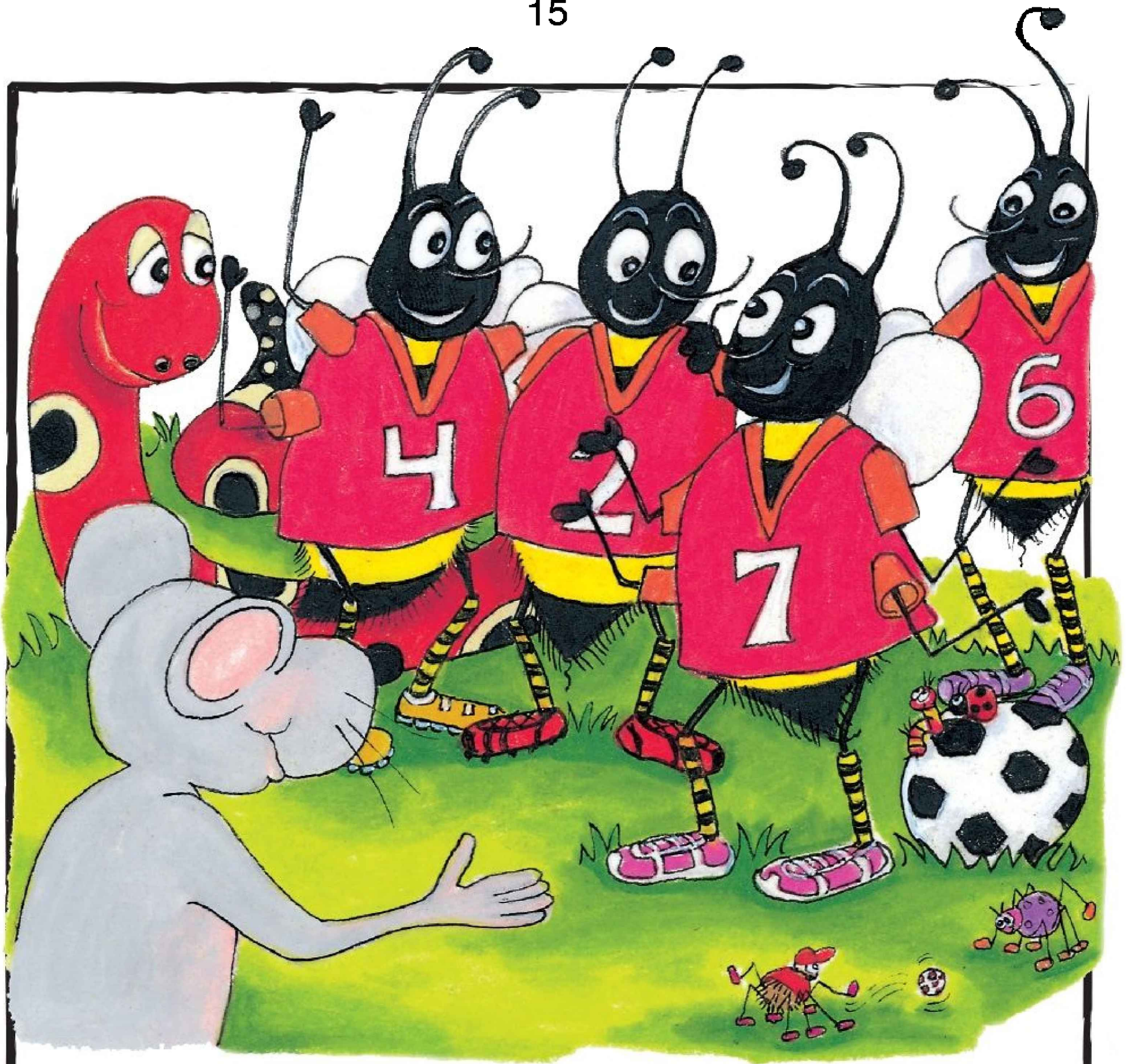
The orchard hive went first and scored. Then it was Bee's turn. She kicked and scored. Snake and Inky clapped.

The next two bees also scored and then the orchard hive scored again. A bee from the Reds stepped up, kicked the ball and missed!

Snake, Inky and all the Reds groaned. Bee's hive had lost.



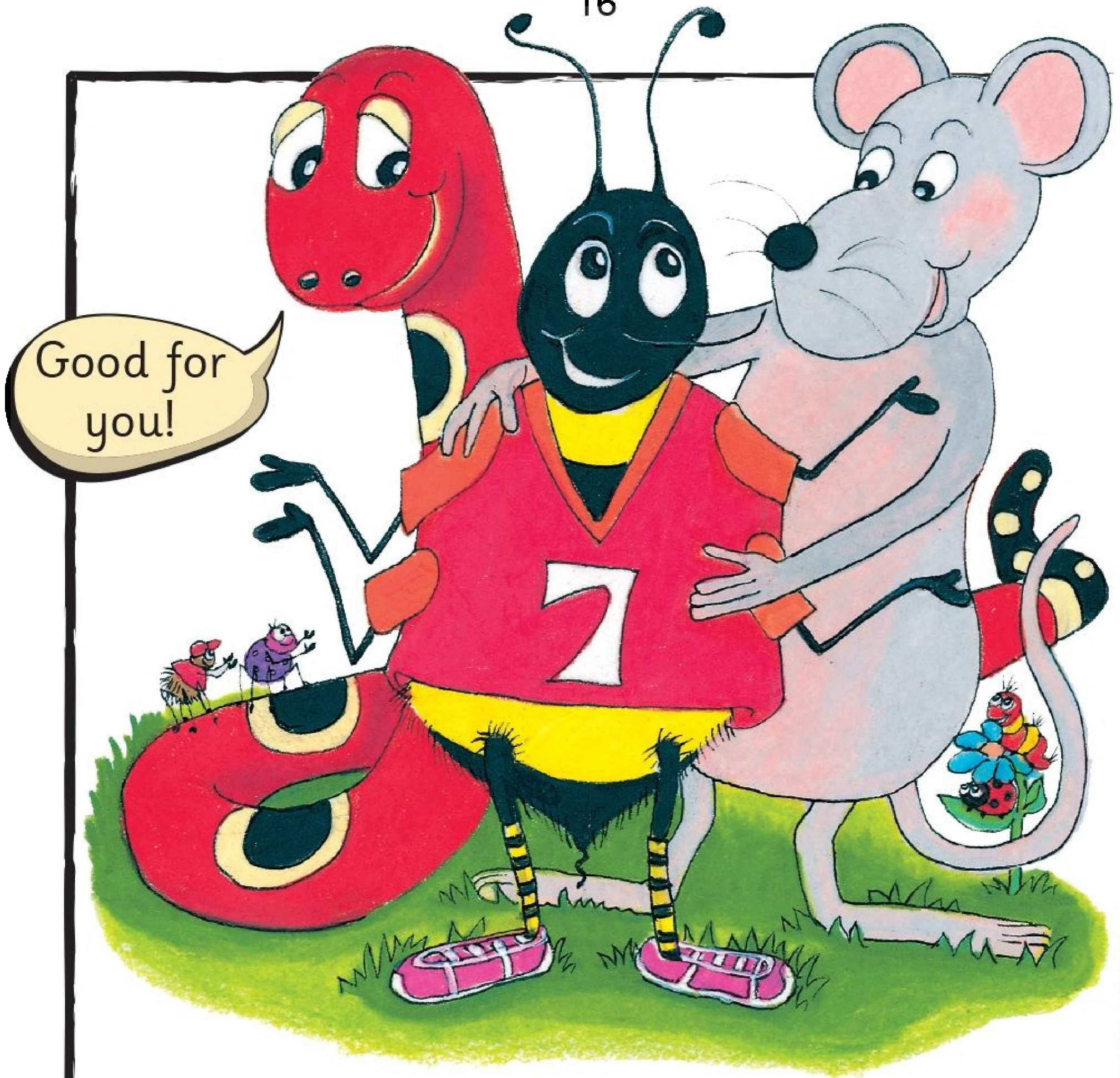




Snake and Inky went to see Bee. To their surprise, she was surrounded by the other bees and they were all grinning.

“We came to see how you were,” said Inky. “You look quite happy, considering your team lost.”





“Well,” buzzed Bee, “it would have been good to win, but I did get picked for the team, and we played really well, and it was the best match ever! I had a really good time and I cannot wait for the next match!”



## Reading Comprehension

### Teachers and parents

An important part of becoming a confident, fluent reader is a child's ability to understand what they are reading. Below are some suggestions on how to develop a child's reading comprehension.

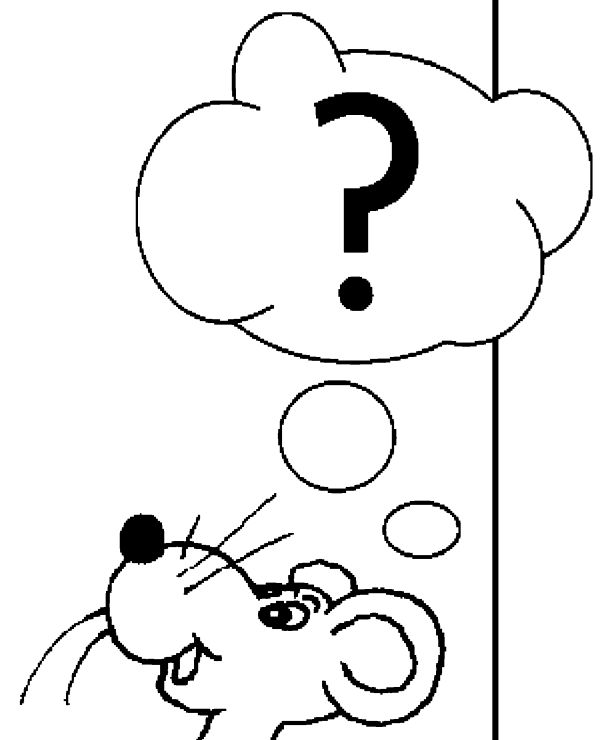
- Make reading this book a shared experience between you and the child. Try to avoid leaving it until the whole book is read before talking about it. Occasionally stop at various intervals throughout the book.
- Ask questions about the characters, the setting, the action and the meaning.
- Encourage the child to think about what might happen next. It does not matter if the answer is right or wrong, so long as the suggestion makes sense and demonstrates understanding.
- Ask the child to describe what is happening in the illustrations.
- Relate what is happening in the book to any real-life experiences the child may have.
- Pick out any vocabulary that may be new to the child and ask what they think it means. If they don't know, explain it and relate it to what is happening in the book.
- Encourage the child to summarise, in their own words, what they have read.

### What's in the book?

- What are the bees training for?
- Which bees are wearing blue?
- Which team wins the match?

### What do you think?

- Why does Bee get picked for the team?
- Is it important to win?







## Jolly Phonics Readers are fully decodable books for new readers.

These Readers have been written with a **carefully controlled vocabulary**, and are specifically designed for children who are learning to read and write with *Jolly Phonics*.

- The text in these Blue Level Books (fourth level) uses only **decodable regular words** that use the letter-sound knowledge taught so far: the 42 main letter sounds, <y> as in *happy*, and the main alternative vowel spellings (the 'hop-over <e>' spellings of the long vowel sounds, <ay> as in *day*, <ea> as in *seat*, <y> and <igh> as in *fly* and *high*, <ow> as in *low* and *now*, <ew> as in *dew*, <oy> as in *joy*, <ir> and <ur> as in *bird* and *turn*, and <al>, <au> and <aw> as in *talk*, *pause* and *saw*), and a small number of **'tricky' words** (frequently used words that are not fully decodable at this stage).
- All new tricky words and alternative vowel spellings used are shown on the front inside cover; these can be used as a quick practice activity before starting the book.
- **Faint type** is used for silent letters, like the <b> in 'lamb'.
- **Comprehension questions** and discussion topics are included at the end of the book. These ensure that children are not only able to read the text, but also get meaning from the stories.

### Blue Level Readers



Inky Mouse & Friends	General Fiction	Nonfiction
The Bird House	The Enormous Turnip	Soccer
Daisy and Buttercup	Rumpelstiltskin	Mountains
The New Kitten	Puppets	Henry Ford
<b>An Inter-Hive Match</b>	Many More Monsters	Sharks
The Maize Maze	The Pumpkin Party	The Moon
Beach Rescue	Town Mouse and Country Mouse	The Nile



Jolly Learning Ltd

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