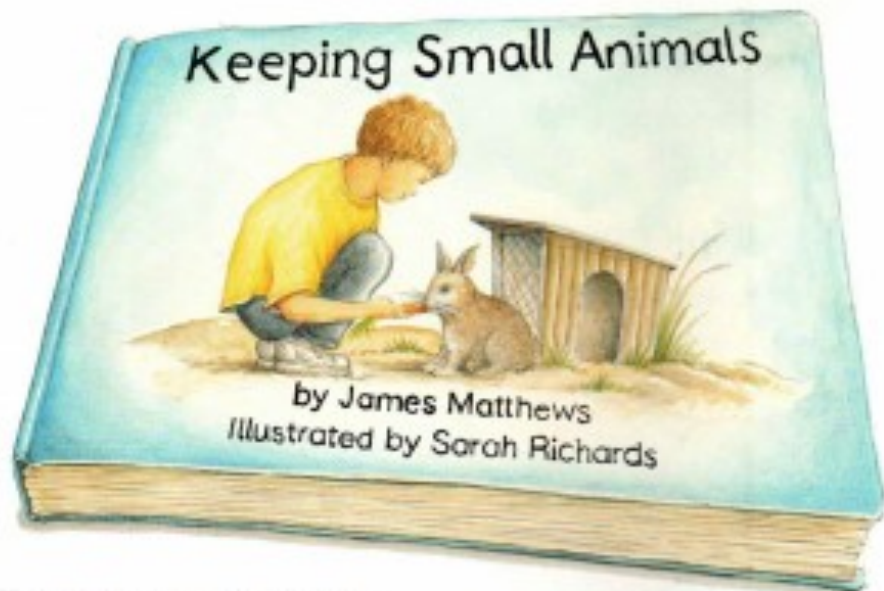


UNIT  
**6**

# Looking at Books



## Do you remember?

Copy these sentences. Choose words from the box to fill the gaps.

Keeping Small Animals    James Matthews  
writes    Sarah Richards    draws

- The title of the book is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The author of the book is called \_\_\_\_\_.
- An author is the person who \_\_\_\_\_ the words.
- The name of the illustrator of the book is \_\_\_\_\_.
- An illustrator is the person who \_\_\_\_\_ the pictures.

## More to think about

Look at these book covers. Write numbers to answer each question.



- Which is the story book?
- In which book could I check the meaning of a word?
- Which book did Hilary Frost write?
- In which book might I find facts about rabbits?
- Which book will help me check the spelling of a word?
- Which book might tell me about the River Amazon?
- Which of the books was written by Kenneth Grahame?
- In which **two** books might I discover more about where alligators live?

## Now try these

Write the title and author of one of each of these types of book that you can find in your classroom.

A book that:

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. tells you about birds         | 4. has lots of pictures     |
| 2. has a story                   | 5. is about another country |
| 3. helps you with spelling words | 6. is your favourite        |

Some of the books you choose might have more than one author.

UNIT  
7

## Gumdrop has a Birthday

Mr Oldcastle has invited several of his friends to help celebrate Gumdrop's birthday. After they have given Gumdrop his presents ...

... the guests gathered round Gumdrop to wish him Many Happy Returns and another fifty years of happy motoring. "For he's a jolly good fellow," they sang, and "Happy birthday, dear Gumdrop, happy birthday to you!"

Mr Oldcastle was very happy and he thanked them all for Gumdrop's sake.

"And here is the birthday cake!" he said. But it wasn't on the table – and it hadn't rolled away. It had vanished!

"Who took the cake?" he cried.

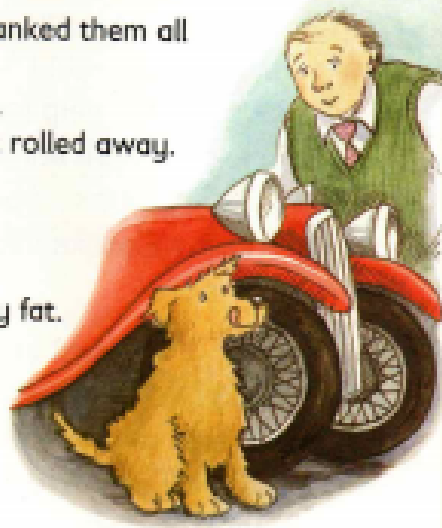
Horace was very happy too. He sat on the ground and he looked very fat. There wasn't a crumb to be seen, because he likes cakes.

Val Biro

### Do you remember?

Write the correct answer to each question in your book.

- Whose birthday is it?  
a) It is Gumdrop's birthday.    b) It is Mr Oldcastle's birthday.
- What is Gumdrop?  
a) Gumdrop is a van.    b) Gumdrop is an old car.



- Was the birthday cake on the table?  
a) No, the cake had vanished.  
b) Yes, the cake was on the table.
- What is the name of Mr Oldcastle's dog?  
a) The dog's name is Rover.    b) The dog's name is Horace.

### More to think about

Here are the instructions for making Gumdrop's birthday cake. They are in the wrong order. Write them out correctly in your book.

Stir the ingredients.

Put the ingredients in a bowl.

Bake the mixture in the oven.

Wash your hands.

Ice the cake and put on the candles.

Go to the shop to buy the ingredients.

### Now try these

- Read these sentences about the story. Write in your book 'true', 'false', 'probably' or 'can't tell' for each one.  
a) Mr Oldcastle is very fond of Gumdrop.  
b) Gumdrop is 50 years old.  
c) Mr Oldcastle is the most popular person in the village.  
d) The birthday cake vanished.  
e) The cake had rolled under Gumdrop.  
f) Horace had eaten the cake.
- Imagine you are Horace. Tell the story of the birthday party from your point of view.

**UNIT**  
**8**

**An Ants' Nest**

Have you sat on a path on a warm summer's day, watching a line of ants marching busily to and fro? They are probably worker ants going to their nearby nest. Here is a page from a book about ants.

**Inside the nest**

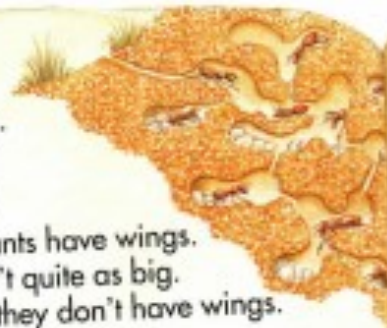
Tiny tunnels lead into the nest.  
Each nest is a mass of tunnels and rooms.

**Types of ant**

In every nest there are three types of ant.  
The biggest are the queen ants. Queen ants have wings.  
The big males also have wings, but aren't quite as big.  
The small ants are the worker ants, and they don't have wings.

**Who does what?**

A queen ant lives in one room of the nest. She stays in her room all the time and lays hundreds of eggs.  
The big male mates with a queen, then dies.  
The worker ants collect the food. They feed the young ants, keep the nest clean, and dig more rooms and tunnels as they are needed. They also keep away ants from other nests.



**Do you remember?**

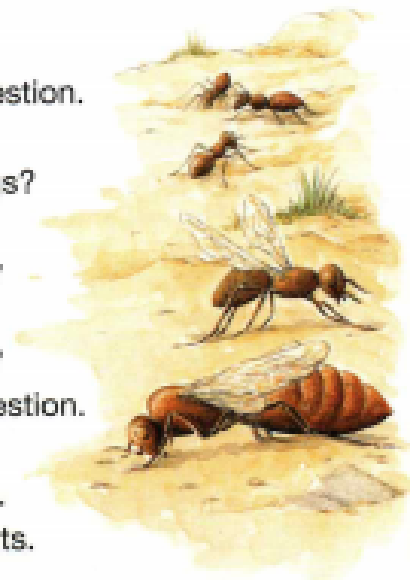
Copy these sentences. Fill in the missing words.

1. Inside an ants' nest is a mass of t\_\_\_\_\_ and rooms.
2. There are t\_\_\_\_\_ types of ant.

3. The biggest ants are the q\_\_\_\_\_.
4. W\_\_\_\_\_ ants are the smallest.
5. A queen ant's main job is to lay the e\_\_\_\_\_.

**More to think about**

1. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) What are the three types of ant?
  - b) Which two types of ant have wings?
  - c) Who looks after the young ants?
  - d) Why do there need to be so many worker ants for each queen?
  - e) Which ants have the shortest life?
2. Write a sentence to answer each question.
  - a) Write one fact about male ants.
  - b) Write two facts about queen ants.
  - c) Write three facts about worker ants.



**Now try these**

1. Imagine you suddenly shrink, and became ant-sized. You explore an ants' nest. Make two lists to show in what ways ants are similar to humans, and the things that are different. Like this:

<i>Ways ants are similar to humans</i>	<i>Ways ants are different from humans</i>

2. Ants are tiny, but when they work together they can do things they couldn't manage by themselves. Write down five things you can do alone, and five things you can do only with other people to help.

UNIT  
9

# Thunder and Lightning

This is an old African legend.

Thunder and Lightning were two grumpy old sheep. Lightning would lose his temper and knock down trees and burn the crops. Thunder, his mother who had an extremely loud voice, would shout at him.



The villagers became really fed up with them. The villagers kept complaining about the damage – and the noise! In the end, the village chief said he couldn't stand it any longer. He said they would have to go far away. He sent them to live in the sky!

But things didn't work out as the chief intended. To this day, Lightning still enjoys getting his own back on the villagers, and Thunder still shouts at the top of her voice and keeps the villagers awake at night.



## Do you remember?

Write the correct answer to each question in your book.

- Did this legend come from Africa?
  - No, this legend came from America.
  - Yes, this legend came from Africa.
- What were Thunder and Lightning?
  - Thunder and Lightning were sheep.
  - Thunder and Lightning were old men.

- What did Lightning do to the crops?
  - Lightning burnt the crops.
  - Lightning watered the crops.
- Where did the village chief send them?
  - The village chief sent them to live in the sky.
  - The village chief sent them to the shops.



## More to think about

Write these sentences neatly in your book in the correct order to make a story.

- Lightning still upsets the villagers.
- He sent them away to live in the sky.
- Thunder and Lightning were two troublesome sheep.
- The villagers became very annoyed.
- Thunder still grumbles away in her loud, booming voice.
- Eventually the village chief could stand it no longer.

## Now try these

- Copy these two lists of words into your book. Draw lines to join words that have similar meanings. One has been done to help you.

fed up	naughty
complain	in the end
banished	sent away
eventually	object to
troublesome	annoyed

- Imagine that you were a villager in this legend. Write in your book about what happened, what you did about it, and how you felt.

**UNIT**  
**10**

# The Lion and the Mouse

One day a mouse happened to run over the paws of a sleeping lion. Angrily the mighty beast woke. He was about to crush the little animal when the mouse cried out, "Please, mighty king of all the animals, spare me. I would be only a tiny mouthful, and I'm sure you would not like the taste. Besides, I might be able to help you some day. You never can tell."

The idea that this tiny creature could ever help him amused the lion so much that he let his little prisoner go.

Some time after this the lion, roaming in the forest for food, was caught in a hunter's net. The more he struggled the more he became stuck; his roar of rage echoed through the forest. Hearing the sound the mouse ran to the trap and began to gnaw the ropes that bound the lion. It was not long before he had bitten through the last cord with his little teeth and set the huge beast free.

**Don't belittle little things.**

Aesop's Fables



## Do you remember?

Write 'true', 'false' or 'can't tell' for each of these sentences.

1. The mouse pulled the lion's tail to wake him.
2. The lion was angry.

3. He ate the little mouse.
4. When the lion was trapped the mouse released him.
5. The animals lived in Africa.



## More to think about

1. Write a sentence to answer each of these questions.
  - a) What was the lion going to do when the mouse woke him?
  - b) What made the lion change his mind?
  - c) Who was 'the little prisoner'?
  - d) How did the mouse know the lion was in trouble?
  - e) How did the mouse rescue the lion?
2. These sentences have been muddled up. Write them in the correct order.
  - a) The mouse persuaded the lion to set him free.
  - b) The lion was trapped in the forest.
  - c) A little mouse woke a lion.
  - d) The lion grabbed the mouse.
  - e) The mouse helped the lion to escape.
  - f) The lion was going to eat the mouse.

## Now try these

1. Have you ever been frightened by someone bigger than you? Write some sentences about what happened and how you felt.
2. Aesop's fables often have a moral. The moral of this story is:

**Don't belittle little things.**

Write what you think it means.