

A boy named Tom was at the bus stop. He was waiting for the school bus. There was no one there but him. The bus was late.	13 26 27
Tom began to talk to himself. "Maybe the bus forgot me," he said.	38 40
Then Tom heard a dog barking. He looked up and saw his dog, Spot, running down the road. Spot ran to Tom. He was so happy to see Tom that he jumped into Tom's arms.	52 64 75
Just then, Tom heard the bus coming. He didn't have time to take Spot home. There was no time to think. Tom grabbed Spot and hid him under his coat.	86 98 105
The bus pulled up to Tom's bus stop. Tom got on the bus and went to the back. His friend Jack had saved a seat for him.	118 132
Just as Tom sat down, a little yelp came from under his coat.	144 145
"What do you have under there, Tom?" asked Jack.	154
"If I tell you, do you promise not to tell?" replied Tom.	166
"You bet. I'm your best friend, aren't I?" asked Jack.	176
Tom told Jack what had happened. He asked his friend what he should do. Jack had an idea.	186 194
"You can tell the teacher you have something very cool for show and tell. Then you could call your mom and have her come and pick up Spot."	205 217 222
Tom decided that's what he would do. His teacher was surprised. His mom was mad, but Spot was very happy.	232 242

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Ann was a big, white sheep. Ann liked to run in the fields.	13
She liked the smell of fresh hay. She liked how things were on the farm. Ann also liked jelly beans.	26 33
Ann would eat any kind of jelly bean, but she liked the red ones the most. Ann would do tricks for a jelly bean. She would do tricks for the farmer's kids.	46 59 65
"Roll over," the kids would tell her. "We'll give you a treat if you roll over, Ann."	78 82
So Ann would roll over. It wasn't really that hard. She would roll over, and the kids would give her a jelly bean.	93 105
"Jump over the hay bale, Ann," the kids would tell her.	116
So Ann would jump over the hay bale. It really wasn't that hard. She would jump over the hay bale, and the kids would give her a jelly bean.	128 140 145
One day Ann was standing in the field with the other sheep. The farmer's kids came out to see her. Ann could see they were each carrying a bag of jelly beans.	157 169 177
She got really excited. She ran right. She ran left. She did fancy tricks. She skipped and she hopped.	189 196
"Come here, Ann!" the kids called out to her. "Follow us to the barn."	208 210
They fed Ann jelly beans all the way to the barn. When she got there, the farmer took her and began to trim her wool.	223 235
"Bah!" Ann cried. "Bah! Bah! Baaaaah!"	241
"Everything's okay, Ann," said the farmer. "You just needed a haircut." He gave her another jelly bean, and everything was better.	249 259 262

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Bill, Pete, and Joe liked to go to the playground. It was a big, open space. The playground had lots of room for running and playing.	13 24 26
One day at the playground, the three friends saw some children flying kites.	36 39
"I sure wish I had a kite," Bill said.	48
"I had one once," said Pete.	54
"Mine got caught in a tree," Joe said.	62
The three friends stood by the kite flyers. They watched the colorful kites bob and dip and spin in the wind.	72 83
At home Bill said to his mom, "I sure wish I had a kite."	97
"I can show you how to make one," she said.	107
"Oh, boy!" Bill said. "Let me call Pete and Joe. They will want to make kites too."	119 124
Mom got all the things they needed. She showed the boys how to cut shapes from thick paper. They colored the paper with markers and paint. Bill made a frog kite. Pete drew a dragon. Joe cut a dinosaur kite. They taped on straws for support. Strips of newspaper became tails. They tied string to the kites to hold them.	135 146 158 169 179 184
"Thanks, Mom," Bill said.	188
"Let's fly our kites!" said Pete and Joe.	196
The boys ran to the playground. They lifted their kites to the wind. Up, up, up flew the kites. Soon the kites went up and down and spun in the wind.	207 221 227
"We made good kites," Bill, Pete, and Joe said.	236

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Billy walked up the front steps. He rang the doorbell. He waited.	11 12
"Is anyone home?" he said. He hoped the door would open soon. He didn't like to stand alone on the front steps. It was cold outside. Billy could feel his toes getting cold in his boots.	23 36 48
"Maybe I came on the wrong day," thought Billy. "I thought he said he would teach me how to play chess Tuesday after school. We had art today, so I know today is Tuesday."	59 71 82
Billy was about to ring the bell again. He stopped when he heard footsteps inside the house. The old man was walking toward the door. Sometimes it took him a while to answer the door.	94 104 116 117
"Who's there?" said a gruff voice. "Is that Mr. Billy Black at my door? You sure took your time getting here today. What took you so long? Did you stop and talk to all of your girlfriends?" teased Mr. Black. He opened the door for Billy.	129 140 153 163
"Oh, Grandpa! You know I don't have any girlfriends! I'm only seven years old!" laughed Billy. "I did have to walk slowly though. The sidewalks were covered with ice. I didn't want to slip and fall." Billy stepped inside the house.	173 185 196 204
"Don't let your boots drip all over the hallway, Billy! Please take them off, son. Come into the kitchen. We can eat some warm cookies while I teach you to play chess."	215 227 236

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"Oh, Grandpa! You know I don't have any girlfriends! I'm only seven years old!" laughed Billy. "I did have to walk slowly though. The sidewalks were covered with ice. I didn't want to slip and fall." Billy stepped inside the house.

"Don't let your boots drip all over the hallway, Billy! Please take them off, son. Come into the kitchen. We can eat some warm cookies while I teach you to play chess."

Cat loved birds. He loved to watch them fly. He liked to	12
watch them eat and make nests. Cat wanted to do something	23
nice for the birds. He wanted to grow birdseed for them to eat.	36
"How will you do that?" Dog asked.	43
"I will plant sunflower seeds," Cat said.	50
Cat dug in the dirt. He made holes. In each hole, he put	63
one sunflower seed. He filled the holes with dirt. Then he	74
carefully watered the seeds.	78
Cat waited one day. Cat waited two days and then seven	89
days. Still no sunflowers came up from the dirt.	98
"Are you sure you planted something?" Dog asked.	106
Cat did not give up. When the dirt was dry, he watered.	118
When weeds grew, he pulled them. He waited and waited.	128
Ten days later, Cat saw something. Small green leaves	137
poked through the brown dirt.	142
All spring Cat cared for the sunflowers. Every day they	152
grew taller and taller. Before long the plants were taller than	163
Cat.	164
"It won't be long now, birds," Cat said.	172
In the summer, flower buds formed at the top of each stalk.	184
Soon, bright yellow sunflowers bloomed in Cat's garden. They	193
bloomed for a long time. Then the yellow petals faded. The	204
brown center became a head of seeds.	211
"Come and eat, birds," Cat called.	217
All kinds of birds visited Cat's garden. They ate seeds from	228
his sunflowers. Cat was very happy. The birds were happy too.	239

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"It won't be long now, birds," Cat said.

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"Come and eat, birds," Cat called.

All kinds of birds visited Cat's garden. They ate seeds from his sunflowers. Cat was very happy. The birds were happy too.

"Goodbye, Mom! I'm going now!" yelled Jack. He pulled	9
his stocking cap over his ears. Then he opened the front door.	21
Jack looked behind him. He wondered if his mother would stop	32
him.	33
"Goodbye, Jack. Will you be back in time for lunch?" asked	44
his mom. Jack put on his mittens.	51
"I'm not sure," said Jack. "I've never run away from home	62
before. I don't know how long it will take. If I make it back for	77
lunch, will you make chicken noodle soup? I would like that,"	88
said Jack.	90
"I think I can make soup for my little boy. Be careful out	103
there. Stay off the ice on the pond. Even though it is covered	116
with snow, I don't think it's strong enough to walk on," said	128
Jack's mom.	130
Jack closed the door. He stepped off the front porch. It	141
was cold outside. The bright sun shone in Jack's eyes. He	152
squinted as he walked to the woods.	159
Jack loved to walk in the woods in the winter. He could see	172
so many different animal tracks in the snow. Then Jack	182
remembered that he told his mom he was going to run away	194
from home.	196
"Why did I want to do that?" thought Jack. "When I'm cold,	208
I like to go home. Then I can warm up and drink hot chocolate.	222
I'm only six years old. Maybe I'll wait until I'm older to run	235
away."	236

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"I think I can make soup for my little boy. Be careful out there. Stay off the ice on the pond. Even though it is covered with snow, I don't think it's strong enough to walk on," said Jack's mom.

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Jack loved to walk in the woods in the winter. He could see so many different animal tracks in the snow. Then Jack remembered that he told his mom he was going to run away from home.

"Why did I want to do that?" thought Jack. "When I'm cold, I like to go home. Then I can warm up and drink hot chocolate. I'm only six years old. Maybe I'll wait until I'm older to run away."

I love my brother. I love him most of the time, anyway. He	13
can be lots of fun. He looks cool on his skateboard. He reads	26
funny books to me. Sometimes I think he lets me win at	38
checkers. He takes me to ball games on nice days. He's a	50
great brother.	52
My brother can be a real pain too. He doesn't let me play	65
with his remote control cars. He hogs the computer. He	75
comes up and scares me when I'm playing.	83
My brother bugs me. He teases me. I bet I bug him too. I	97
know I tease him. I'd be lost without him. I guess I'll keep him.	111
I love my sister. I love her most of the time anyway. She	124
can be loads of fun. She looks cool when she rollerblades. We	136
sing songs and dance together. She helps me with my	146
homework. She takes me swimming. She pretends to be	155
Minnie Mouse. She's great!	159
My sister can be a real pain too. She won't let me use her	173
bike or other ball glove. She's always talking and whispering to	184
her friends on the phone. She'll unplug the radio when I'm	195
listening.	196
My sister bugs me. She teases me. I bet I bug her too. I	210
know I tease her. I'd be lost without her. I guess I'll keep her	224
too.	225

I love my brother. I love him most of the time, anyway. He can be lots of fun. He looks cool on his skateboard. He reads funny books to me. Sometimes I think he lets me win at checkers. He takes me to ball games on nice days. He's a great brother.

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My sister can be a real pain too. She won't let me use her bike or other ball glove. She's always talking and whispering to her friends on the phone. She'll unplug the radio when I'm listening.

My sister bugs me. She teases me. I bet I bug her too. I know I tease her. I'd be lost without her. I guess I'll keep her too.

It was Mr. Bee's job to get honey. He worked very hard.	12
Mr. Bee got honey from all the flowers on the farm. He got	25
honey from red flowers and from pink flowers. He got honey	36
from sunflowers and from purple flowers. Mr. Bee worked all	46
day long. He was on the job from morning to night.	57
"I love my job," said Mr. Bee as he buzzed from flower to	70
flower. "I have the best job on the planet."	79
Mr. Bee worked with other bees. All the other bees were	90
very nice to Mr. Bee. Mr. Bee had many friends.	100
One day, all the bees decided to throw a party for Mr. Bee.	113
They wanted it to be a surprise party. They didn't tell Mr. Bee.	126
The other bees tied balloons to Mr. Bee's flowers. They told	137
him they wanted to see him after work. After work, Mr. Bee	149
went to meet the other bees.	155
"Surprise!" they shouted to Mr. Bee when they saw him.	165
"You are a very special bee, Mr. Bee. You work very hard.	177
You collect a lot of honey."	183
They gave Mr. Bee a honey cake. They gave Mr. Bee new	195
honey pots for his legs. They sang songs to Mr. Bee and	207
danced all night.	210
The next morning, Mr. Bee was very tired but very happy.	221
He sang as he buzzed from flower to flower.	230
"I'm a happy bee," he sang. "That's me."	238

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Mr. Bee worked with other bees. All the other bees were very nice to Mr. Bee. Mr. Bee had many friends.

One day, all the bees decided to throw a party for Mr. Bee. They wanted it to be a surprise party. They didn't tell Mr. Bee. The other bees tied balloons to Mr. Bee's flowers. They told him they wanted to see him after work. After work, Mr. Bee went to meet the other bees.

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It was time for Chad's family to buy a new car. When Mom started their old car, it made strange sounds. The brakes were loud and squeaky. The heater only worked when it was hot outside. The cold air only worked in the winter. The outside of the car looked like an old tin can from the dump.	13 24 35 47 58
Chad and Mom drove to the car lot. When they got there Mom said, "We would like to look at new cars."	70 80
The man showed them around the car lot.	88
"What kind of car are you looking for?" asked the man.	99
"A car that runs," said Mom.	105
Chad and Mom drove in many new cars. They bought a car with four doors. It didn't make strange sounds. The brakes were quiet. Cold air came out when Mom pushed the cold air button. Hot air came out when Mom pushed the hot air button. The car was black like a new tar road.	116 127 139 151 160
On the way home Chad was very quiet.	168
"Aren't you happy about our new car?" asked Mom.	177
Chad said, "It's a good car, Mom. I just miss our old car. I miss the smell of old shoes in the backseat. I miss the squeaky brakes and the way the cracked window wipers used to smack."	191 204 214 215
"Don't worry," said Mom. "In a couple of years, this car will be just like our old one."	227 233

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"Don't worry," said Mom. "In a couple of years, this car will be just like our old one."

Jeff was happy to see the snow. He could hardly wait to	12
get outside. He hurried to put on his winter things. First he put	25
on snow pants. Then he got his jacket. His mom made sure	37
he had his hat, mittens, and boots.	44
Jeff ran outside to join the other kids. They had just started	56
making a snowman. First they made the bottom part. That	66
part needed to be big. They had to keep rolling the snowball	78
around the yard. It took three kids to push it. Next they made	91
the middle. It took two kids to roll that part. It was not as big.	106
Jeff made the head. It took only one person to roll it. But it	120
took two people to lift it. Finally, all three parts were together.	132
Now they needed to dress the snowman. Jeff ran home to	143
get a hat. The other kids ran home for other things. They put a	157
hat, mittens, and boots on the snowman. They used sticks for	168
arms. Someone brought big buttons for eyes. They used a	178
carrot for a nose. They wrapped his neck in a scarf. The	190
snowman was done! He was a cool looking snowman.	199
When they were done, they all went to Jeff's house to warm	211
up. Jeff's mom made hot cocoa.	217
After the cocoa, they went back outside. They wanted to	227
play in the snow some more. This time they went sledding.	238
The park had a big hill. They went down the hill fast. Jeff loved	252
the snow!	254

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Now they needed to dress the snowman. Jeff ran home to get a hat. The other kids ran home for other things. They put a hat, mittens, and boots on the snowman. They used sticks for arms. Someone brought big buttons for eyes. They used a carrot for a nose. They wrapped his neck in a scarf. The snowman was done! He was a cool looking snowman.

When they were done, they all went to Jeff's house to warm up. Jeff's mom made hot cocoa.

After the cocoa, they went back outside. They wanted to play in the snow some more. This time they went sledding. The park had a big hill. They went down the hill fast. Jeff loved the snow!

John was walking through the woods. The sky was very	10
gray. His coat was warm, but his hands were cold. He walked	22
on a path and looked at birds. The birds were flying South.	34
The leaves on the trees were brown. They fell to the ground	46
near him. John called out, "Come here, Puppy!"	54
Puppy was a dog. Puppy ran and ran when he went into	66
the woods. He did not want to come back to John. John	78
yelled, "Puppy, come here, now!" Puppy ran to John and licked	89
his hand. John said, "Good boy, good boy. You must come to	101
me when I call."	105
Puppy ran off down the trail. Puppy saw a black and white	117
animal on the path. Puppy looked at the animal and wanted to	129
be friends. But the animal did not want to be friends. Puppy	141
did not know the animal was a skunk.	149
John walked down the path. He saw his dog and the	160
skunk. The skunk turned and lifted his tail toward Puppy. John	171
said, "Puppy, come here." But Puppy did not want to come.	182
The skunk made Puppy smell very bad. The smell was so bad	194
that Puppy ran away. Puppy ran to John. "You must come to	206
me when I call," said John. Puppy always comes to John now.	218

John was walking through the woods. The sky was very gray. His coat was warm, but his hands were cold. He walked on a path and looked at birds. The birds were flying South. The leaves on the trees were brown. They fell to the ground near him. John called out, "Come here, Puppy!"

Puppy was a dog. Puppy ran and ran when he went into the woods. He did not want to come back to John. John yelled, "Puppy, come here, now!" Puppy ran to John and licked his hand. John said, "Good boy, good boy. You must come to me when I call."

Puppy ran off down the trail. Puppy saw a black and white animal on the path. Puppy looked at the animal and wanted to be friends. But the animal did not want to be friends. Puppy did not know the animal was a skunk.

John walked down the path. He saw his dog and the skunk. The skunk turned and lifted his tail toward Puppy. John said, "Puppy, come here." But Puppy did not want to come. The skunk made Puppy smell very bad. The smell was so bad that Puppy ran away. Puppy ran to John. "You must come to me when I call," said John. Puppy always comes to John now.

Mom and Dad said we were moving to a new town. We	12
packed all of our stuff in boxes. We loaded the truck.	23
The next morning, we got up early. I sat in the truck with	36
Dad. Mom drove our car. It was very full. We hardly had room	49
for the dog. He sat in the back seat. Dad drove the truck. He	63
said he could not drive it very fast. I looked out the window and	77
talked to Dad. I wondered if Mom was talking to the dog.	89
We drove and drove. Soon I fell asleep. I don't know how	101
long I slept. When I woke up, it was time for lunch.	113
We stopped and ate tacos. I had a kid's meal so I could get	127
the toy. I drank all of my soda and got a refill. When we were	142
done eating, we got back in the truck.	150
Mom made sure I had my seatbelt on before she went to	162
her car. Dad told me we had only four more hours to go. I did	177
not fall asleep this time. Dad and I looked for cars from other	190
states. I saw some deer by the road. I also saw lots of cows.	204
Dad said I would soon see lots of animals every day. We were	217
moving to a farm!	221
Just then, we pulled into the driveway of our new home. I	233
couldn't wait to explore and meet new friends. Maybe our new	244
neighbors would have horses!	248

Mom and Dad said we were moving to a new town. We packed all of our stuff in boxes. We loaded the truck.

The next morning, we got up early. I sat in the truck with Dad. Mom drove our car. It was very full. We hardly had room for the dog. He sat in the back seat. Dad drove the truck. He said he could not drive it very fast. I looked out the window and talked to Dad. I wondered if Mom was talking to the dog.

We drove and drove. Soon I fell asleep. I don't know how long I slept. When I woke up, it was time for lunch.

We stopped and ate tacos. I had a kid's meal so I could get the toy. I drank all of my soda and got a refill. When we were done eating, we got back in the truck.

Mom made sure I had my seatbelt on before she went to her car. Dad told me we had only four more hours to go. I did not fall asleep this time. Dad and I looked for cars from other states. I saw some deer by the road. I also saw lots of cows. Dad said I would soon see lots of animals every day. We were moving to a farm!

Just then, we pulled into the driveway of our new home. I couldn't wait to explore and meet new friends. Maybe our new neighbors would have horses!

My friend Ben called. He asked me to come over. I asked	12
Mom. She said, "I can't drive you to Ben's today. The baby	24
isn't feeling well."	27
"Can I bike to Ben's alone?" I asked. Ben lives six houses	39
down from us.	42
"I will think about it," Mom said. "Biking alone is a big step.	55
You'll have to show me you are ready for a big kid trip."	68
I put on Dad's big winter boots. "See Mom, I'm big," I said.	81
"That's not showing me that you are ready for a big kid trip,"	94
said Mom.	96
I ate four whole pieces of pizza at lunch. "See Mom, I'm	108
big," I said.	111
"That's not showing me that you are ready for a big kid trip,"	124
said Mom.	126
Mom put some cookies in the oven. Then she went outside	137
to get the mail.	141
Just then I saw smoke coming from the oven. The cookies	152
were burning! The house filled with smoke. I ran to get the	164
baby. I walked outside. I held the phone in one hand and the	177
baby in my arms.	181
"Mom, call 911!" I yelled. "There is smoke in the house!"	192
Mom ran into the house. She pulled the burnt cookies from the	204
oven. She turned the oven off and opened the windows.	214
She came outside and said, "You did a good job. You	225
thought about saving yourself and the baby. You showed me	235
that you are ready for a big kid trip."	244

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Sam was happy. He was going to get a dog! He had	12
wanted one for so long. His mom and dad agreed Sam was	24
now old enough.	27
They knew Sam would remember to feed it. Sam also	37
knew he had to take it for walks. Dogs need to go outside for	51
walks.	52
They went to the pet store. Sam picked out a black dog.	64
He was so cute. He had soft, fluffy fur. Sam named him Spot.	77
Spot liked to lick Sam's nose. That made Sam laugh.	87
Next, Sam picked out a dog dish. He also found some	98
puppy food. Sam wanted to buy Spot a toy. Spot liked the	110
squeaky toys. Sam's mom added a leash to the cart. Sam	121
also bought some bones for Spot to chew.	129
Spot sat on Sam's lap for the ride home. Sam took him in	142
the house. He showed Spot his room. Spot sniffed at	152
everything. Sam's mom said Spot was exploring. Sam filled	161
Spot's dish with food. He also filled a bowl with water.	172
Sam took Spot outside. They played in the yard. Spot	182
jumped and barked. Spot chased after sticks. Sam and Spot	192
rolled on the grass. Sam laughed when Spot licked his face.	203
Sam went to get the leash. He wanted to take Spot for a	216
walk. They walked past the park. Sam saw some friends. He	227
showed his new dog to everyone.	233

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Sam's class was going on a trip to the zoo. Sam liked the zoo.	13 14
On the day of the trip, Sam's mom packed animal shaped cookies in his lunch. He wore his whale shirt. He put on his sea lion socks.	25 38 41
The bus ride to the zoo seemed to take forever. Sam could not wait to get there. When the bus stopped, he was the first to get off.	53 67 69
Sam stood in line to enter the zoo. He planned to see the apes swing from trees. He wanted to see birds flap their wings. He wanted to hear lions roar.	82 94 100
Inside the zoo, Sam ran to see the apes first. He looked in their cage. Where were they? Only one ape was there. He was asleep in a dark corner. He was not moving.	113 124 134
Next, Sam ran to the lion's cage. The lion was hiding beside a big rock. It did not want to see people.	145 156
Then, Sam tried to see the whales. But the whales' swimming pool was closed for cleaning.	166 172
"I'll be able to see the birds," he thought. But the birds stayed high in the trees, far from Sam.	184 192
Sam was sad. He wanted to see animals, but the animals did not want to see him!	203 209
On the bus ride home, Sam ate his lunch. He saw many animals. He played zookeeper with his animal cookies! He made the lions roar. He made the apes swing. He made the birds fly. Sam liked his trip home from the zoo.	221 230 242 252

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Our bird feeder is full. It has lots and lots of seeds in it.	14
There are sunflower seeds and corn. Birds love eating seeds and corn. In the winter, they really need food. At times it is hard to find it. If you put food in a feeder, it is easy for the birds to find it.	24 37 54 57
Birds chirp at the feeder. They chirp a lot. They tell their bird friends about the food. Chick-a-dee-dee, chick-a-dee-dee! After that, more birds flutter closer to the feeder.	69 82 91
They zip in. They zip out. Each time they leave, they take a sunflower seed or some corn. They zoom through the air. They look for a safe place to sit and crack open the seed or nibble on the corn. The birds are busy for much of the day.	103 114 128 141
Sometimes a blue jay shows up. Blue jays make a mess at bird feeders. Other birds think the blue jay is a bully. He is a very noisy bird. He scares the other birds away from the feeder.	153 167 178 179
When the blue jay is full of food, he flies away. The other birds are now safe to start eating again. The birds eat until they are no longer hungry.	192 204 209
Sometimes red and gray squirrels show up to eat the seeds or corn that falls to the ground. They are hungry animals too.	220 232

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Two mice lived in the walls of Tim's house. One was	11
named Bill. The other was named Ray. Bill and Ray slept in	23
the wall next to Tim's bed. Every night, Tim could hear them	35
running around. Every night, Tim had a hard time falling asleep	46
because Bill and Ray made a lot of noise.	55
One night, Bill and Ray made too much racket. It sounded	66
like they were dancing in the walls. Tim stood up on his bed	79
and pounded the wall with his fist. "Hey Bill and Ray, be quiet.	92
I can't sleep," he told them. "I have a big test at school	105
tomorrow. I need my rest."	110
The mice were quiet for a little while. Then, they started	121
making noise again. Tim could hear them crawling around in	131
the walls. He rolled over in bed and turned on his light.	143
"What am I going to do? How can I keep the mice quiet?"	156
Tim asked himself.	159
"You can give us some pillows and a blanket."	168
Tim turned his head. There was a mouse standing next to	179
a hole in the wall.	184
"We make so much noise because we're cold." Ray said. If	195
you would share some of your blankets with us, we could all go	208
to sleep."	210
Tim gave each mouse a sock to use as a blanket. He gave	223
them cotton balls to use as pillows. Then they all went to	235
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