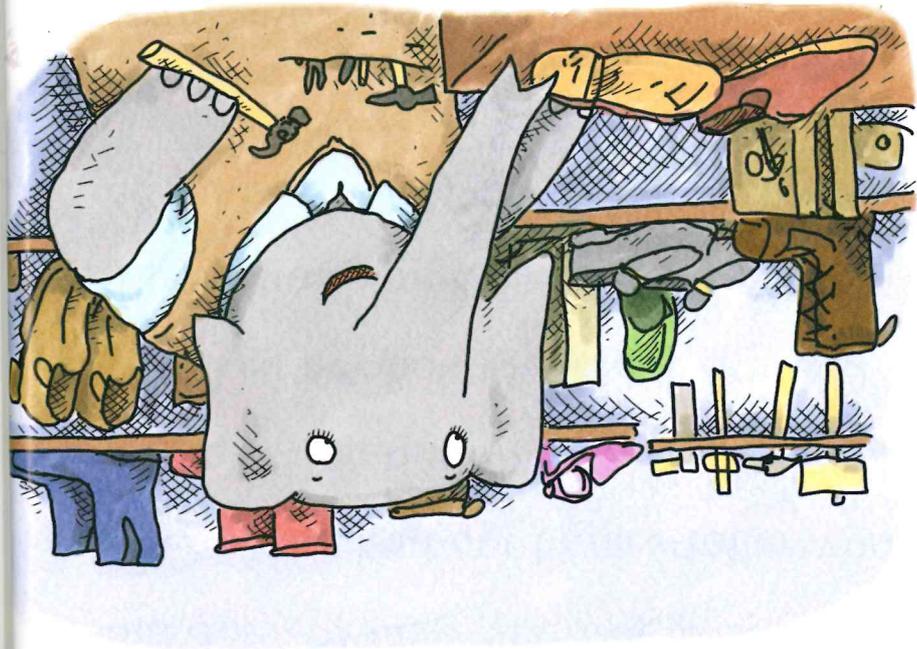


“I need some shoes to make me bigger-taller,” he said.
 “Boots are best for that,” said Ernie.
 Joe tried on lots of boots, but none of them made him as bigger-taller as he wanted.

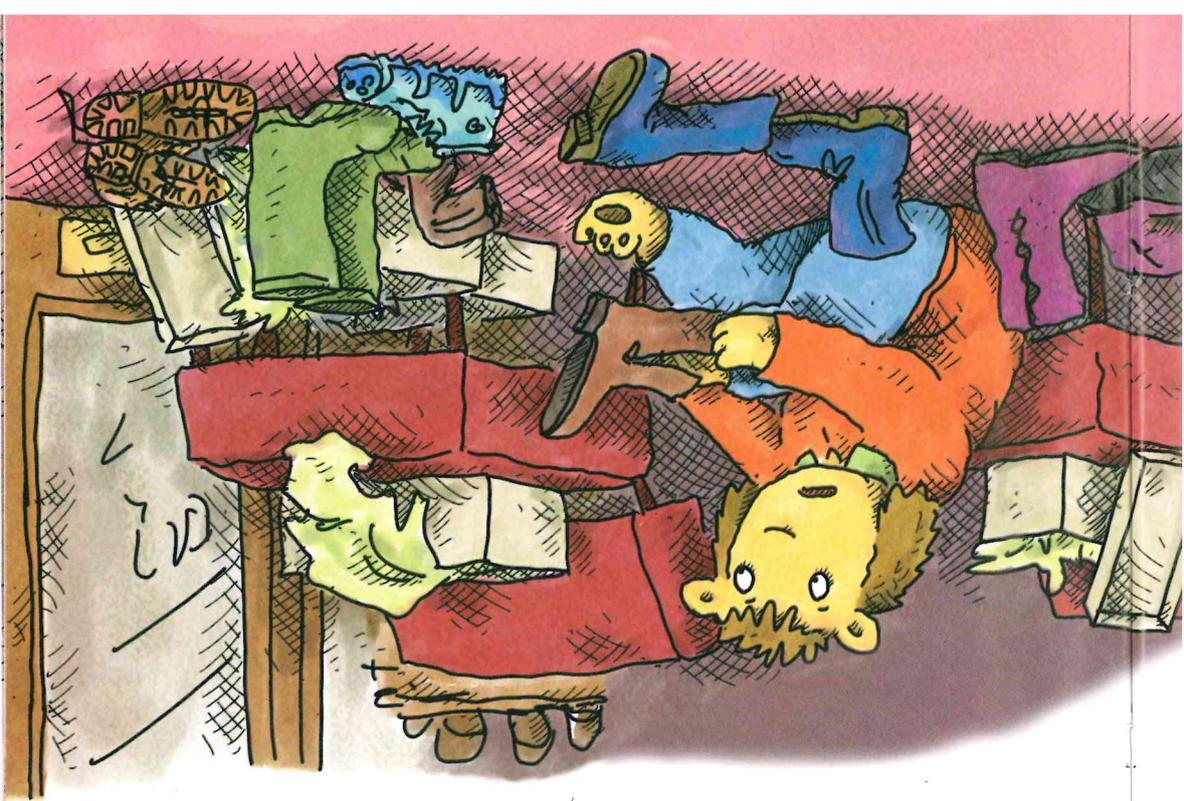
Joe rushed into Ernie Elephant's shoe shop



Chapter Three



“I can make you some,” said Ernie.
“But it’ll cost you, AND it’s money
in advance.”
Joe paid Ernie. “It’s all the money
I’ve got, but it will be worth it,”
said Joe.
“I’ll bring them round – delivery
is free,” said Ernie.



Joe couldn't wait
for the new boots
to arrive.

But at last, here was
Ernie. Now for the

BIG MOMENT.

Joe took the lid off the box.

He took out his new boots and

put them on.

"This is more like it!" said Joe.

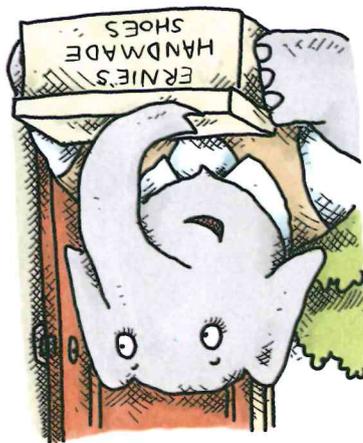
He went to show the others.

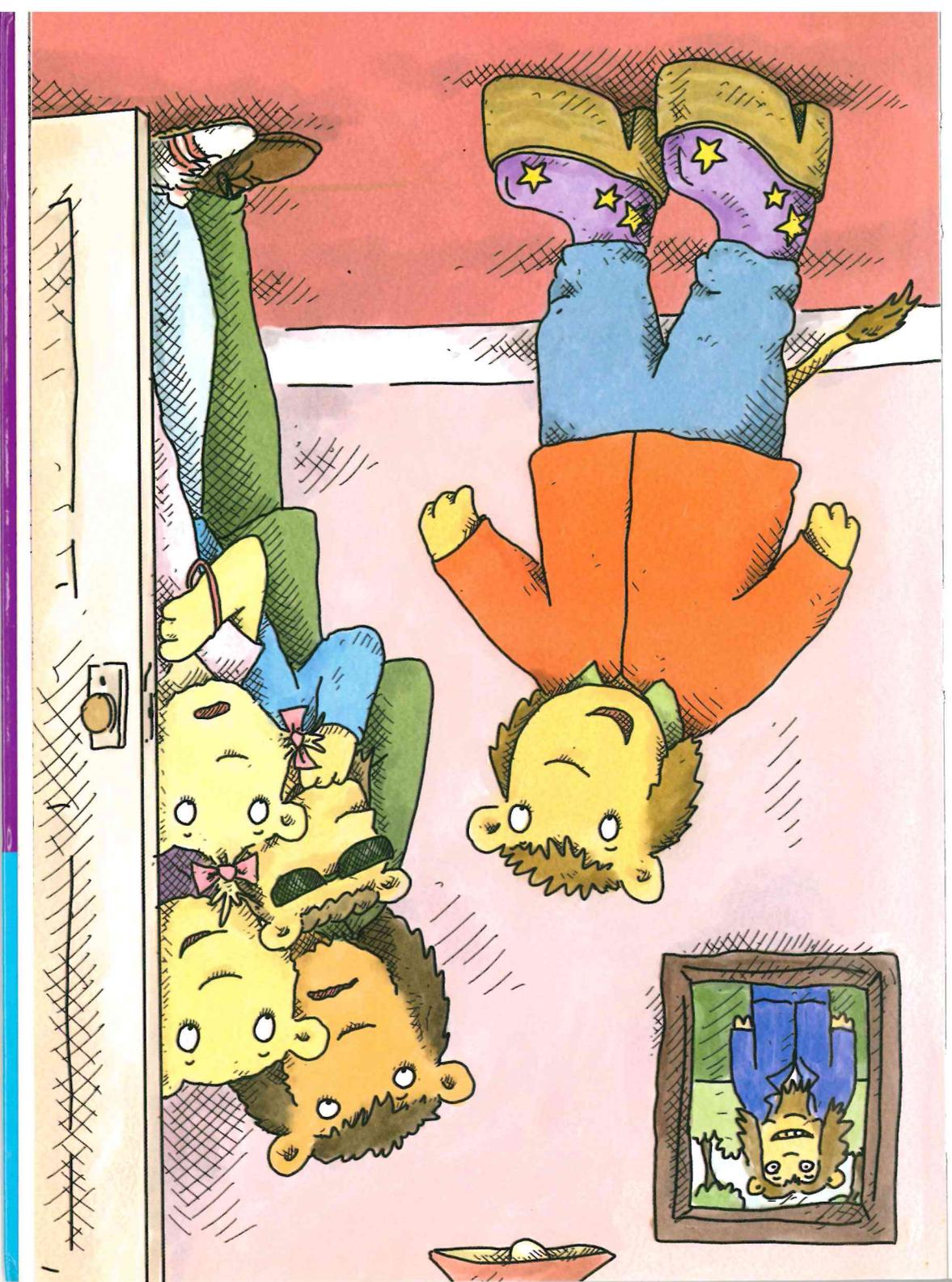
"Surprise, surprise!

I'm lots bigger-taller now."

They were surprised all right –

too surprised to speak!







He could reach the rope to swing from.

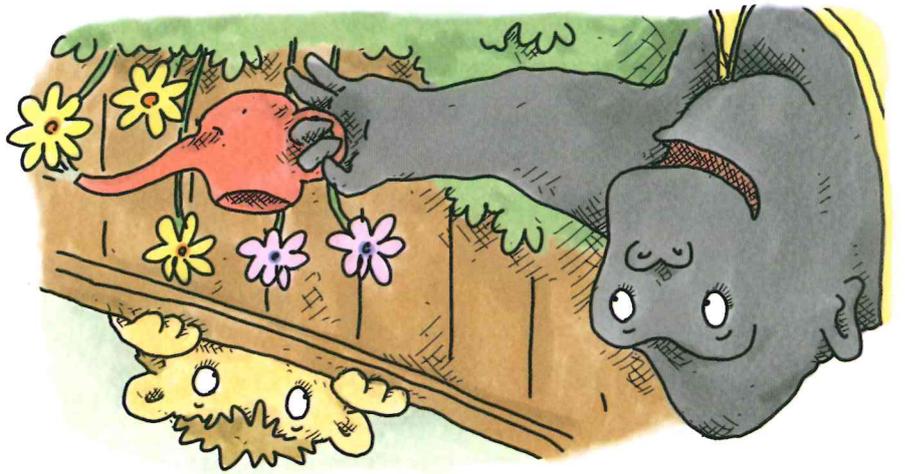


Bigger-taller Joe could do lots of things
 he couldn't do before.
 He could reach the hall light. He turned
 it on and off – just because he could!

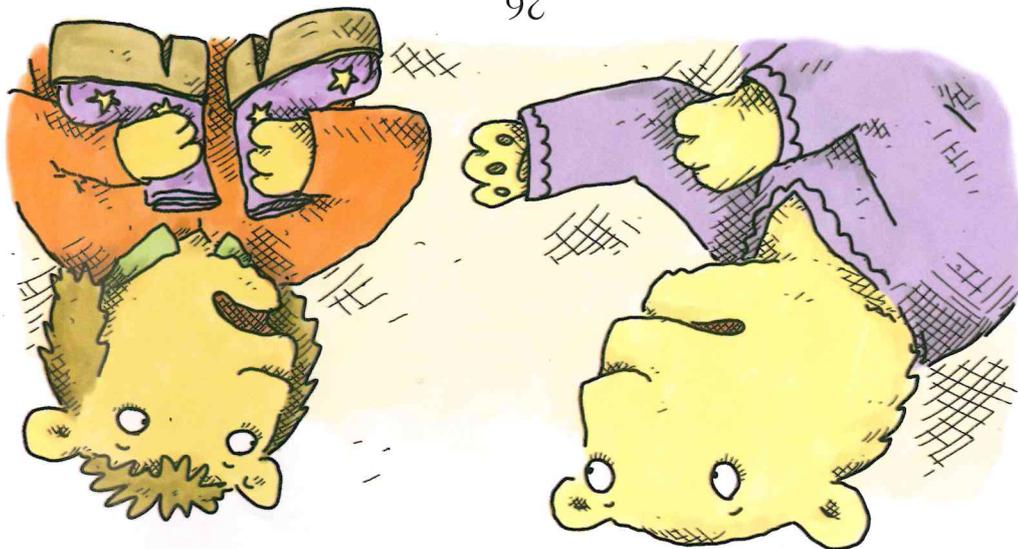


CLUMPI CLUMPI CLUMPI

His new boots made a great noise, too!



He could see over Gus Gorilla's fence.



wouldn't be the smallest in the class.

In his Clumping Clumpers he

"I've got to wear them," said Joe.

school!"

"You can't wear those things to

But the next morning, Mum said,

said Mum.

"That's a good name for them,"

Clumpers," said Joe.

"I'll call them my Clumping

“I feel like an ant that’s turned
into a giant,” he said, as he set
off down the path.
Today was going to be his best
school day ever!





the sun better.

sky, and could feel

He was closer to the

he said.

“I like this bigger-taller me!”

Joe made his way to the bus stop.



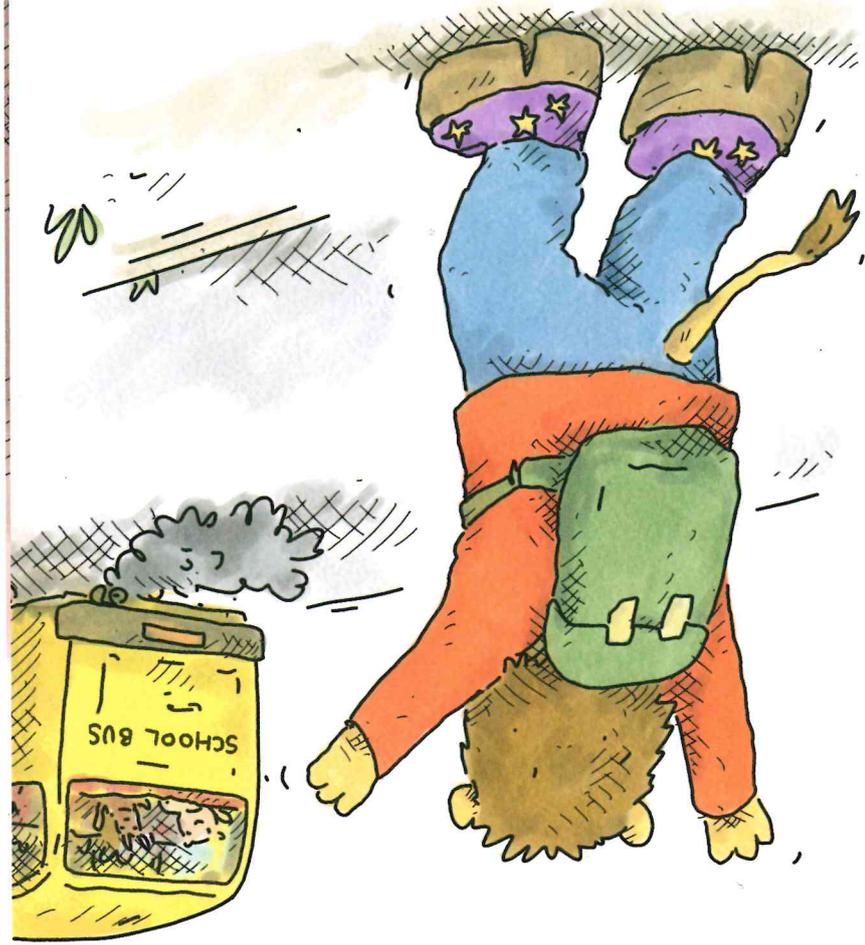
Chapter Four

He saw the bus coming,

and ran to catch it – or tried to!

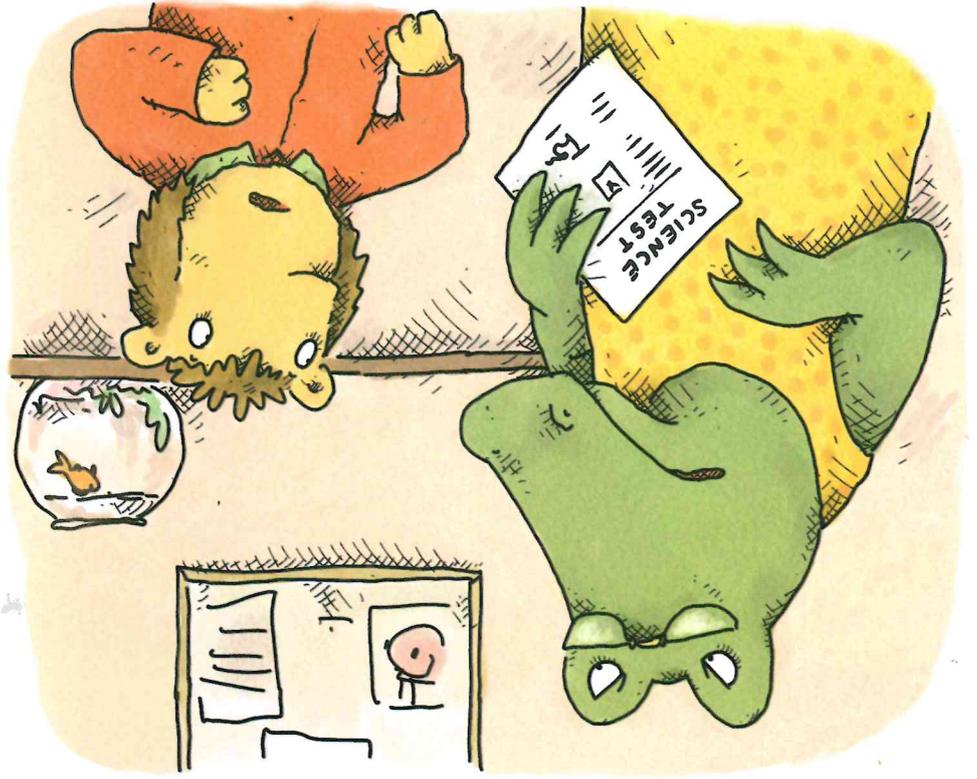
In his Clumping Clumpers he could

only: CLUMPI CLUMPI CLUMPI!



The bus went without him.

“Can I feed the goldfish?” he asked.
But the goldfish was already fed.



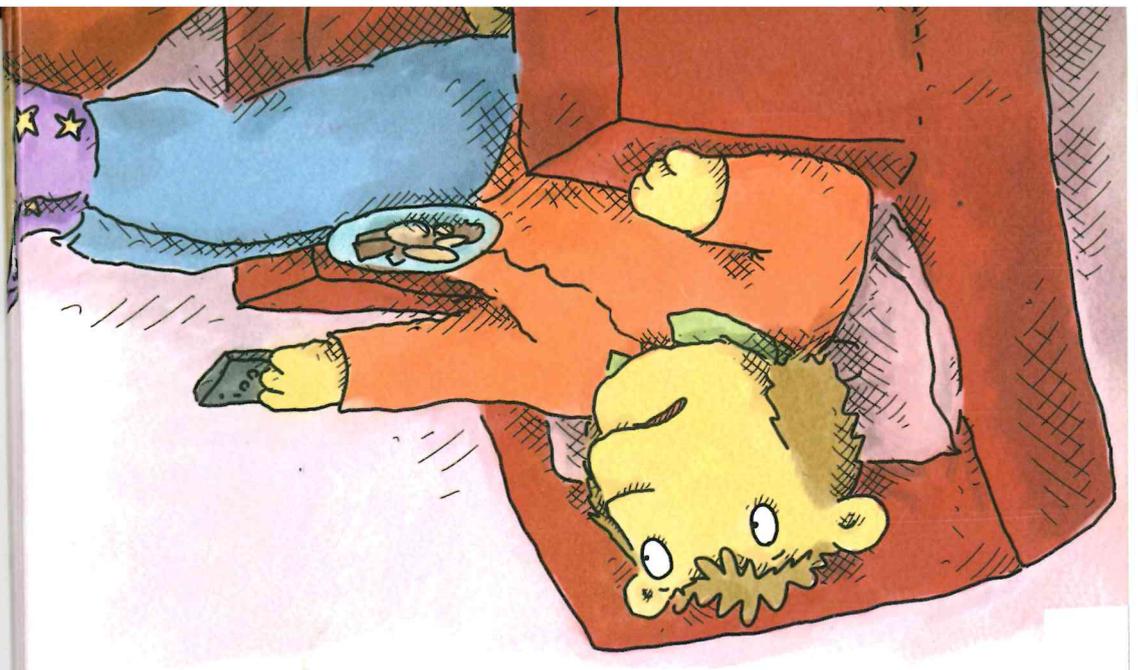
Joe was late for school.
Mrs Croc wasn't pleased.
“I'm sorry, Mrs Croc,” said Joe.
“It was my Clumping Clumpers.”

At break, his mates were playing football. Joe was good at scoring goals.



But not in his Clumping Clumpers.

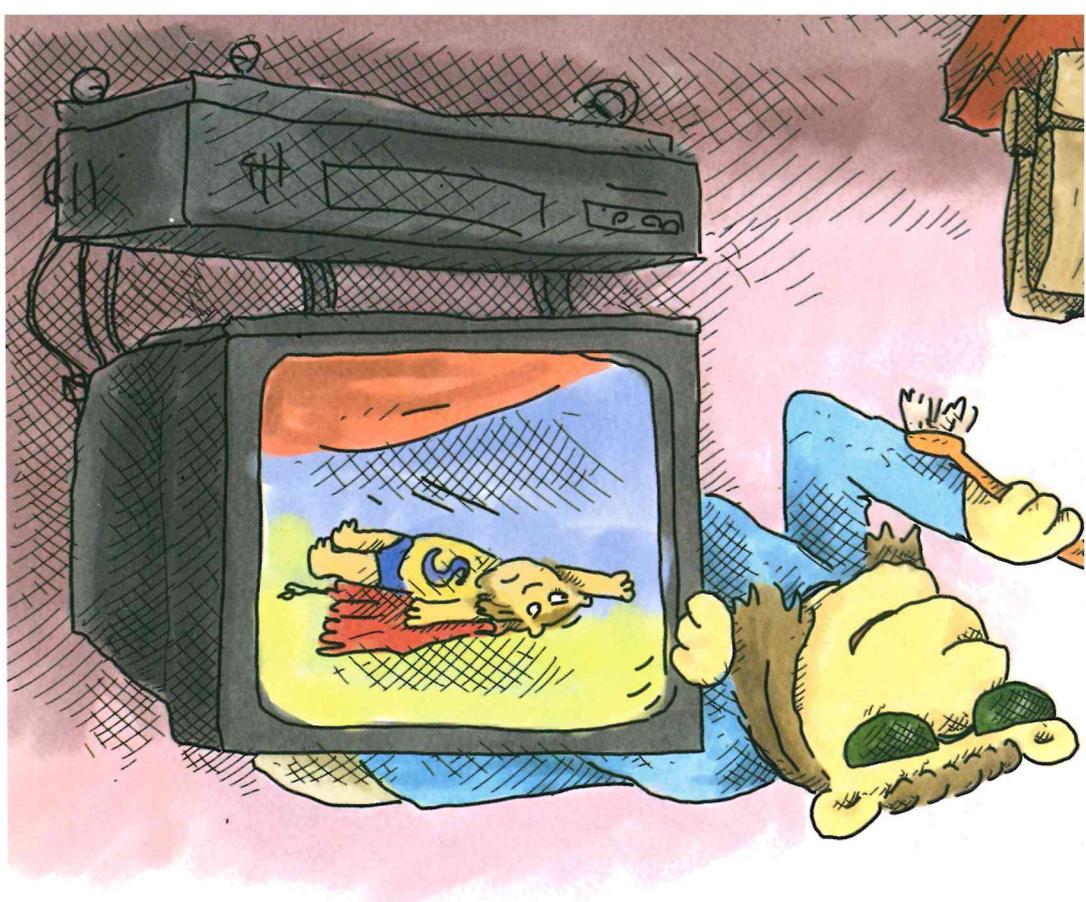
Joe was glad to get home.
"Biscuit jar, here I come!"
He reached it, easy peasy.
Now to watch his favourite television
programme, *Super Lion in Space*.
But then Mum said, "Hang up your
coat, Joe. You can reach the hook
in your Clumping Clumpers."
And that was just the start of it.



Joe could reach lots of things he
couldn't reach when he was small
Joe Lion.

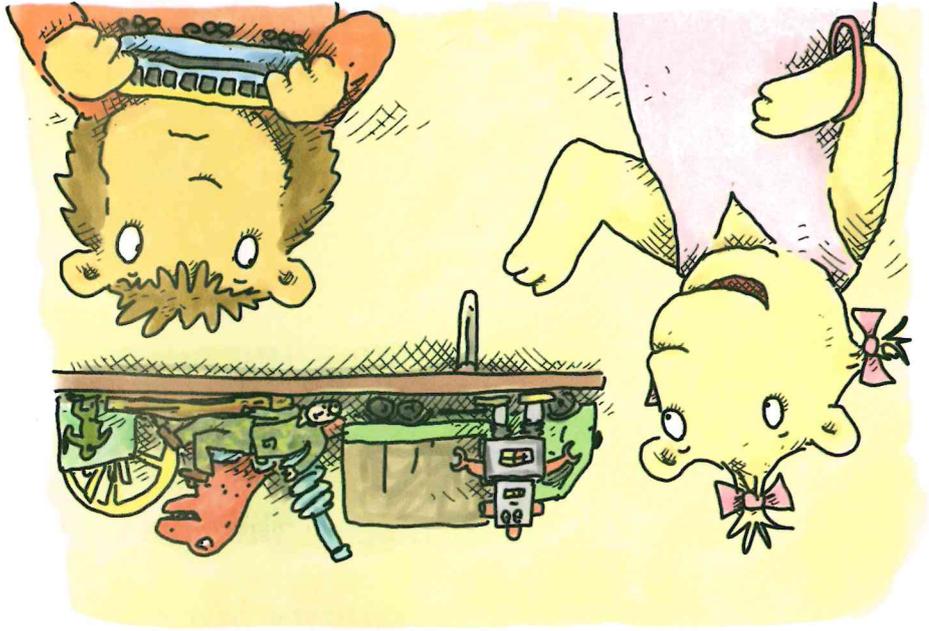
Like the kitchen sink:

“You can take a turn at washing up,”
said Big Brother Ben.



Like the toy shelf:

“You can put your toys up there
yourself,” said Sister Susan.



Washing up! Tidying up!

“It’s all I seem to do these days!”

said Joe.

But he couldn’t do much else

in his Clumping Clumpers.

Joe shook his head.
He couldn't join in the games.
"I can only clump!" he said.
"I'm off for a walk."

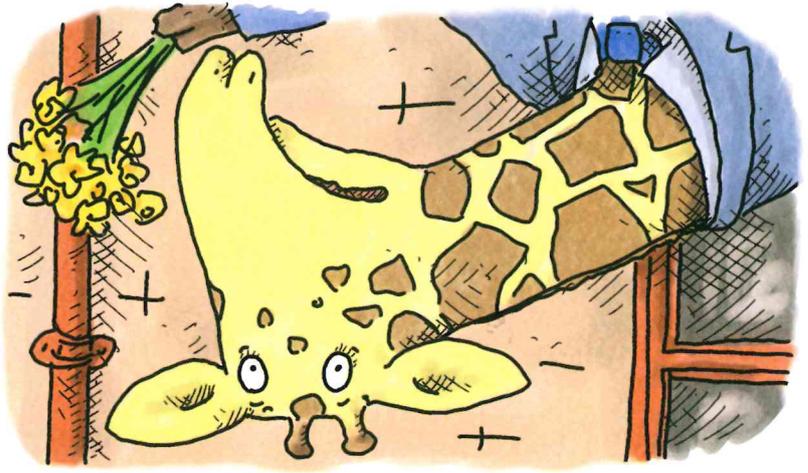


Later, Joe's mates were off to the park.
"Are you coming, Joe?" they asked.



Joe clumped off down the street.
CLUMPI! CLUMPI! CLUMPI!
But what was up with Geoff Giraffe?
“He looks like he’s in trouble!”
said Joe.

Joe soon discovered that Geoff
 WAS in trouble.
 "Daffy giraffe that I am,
 I've locked myself out," he said.
 "I came outside to pick some flowers,
 and I left the bath running!"
 Joe saw the problem at once.
 Left to itself the bath would overflow
 and Geoff's house would be flooded!



Chapter Five

Joe spotted the bathroom window –
it was open!

“You can get in up there,” he said.
Geoff got his head in.

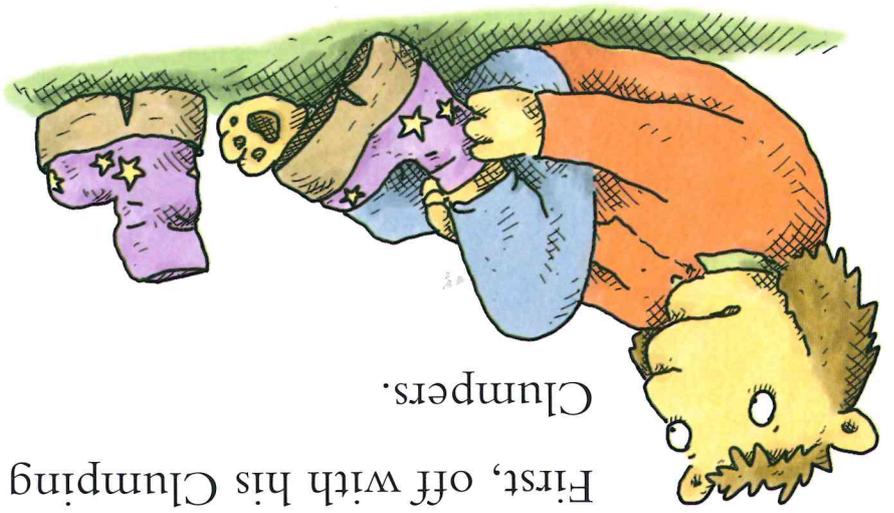
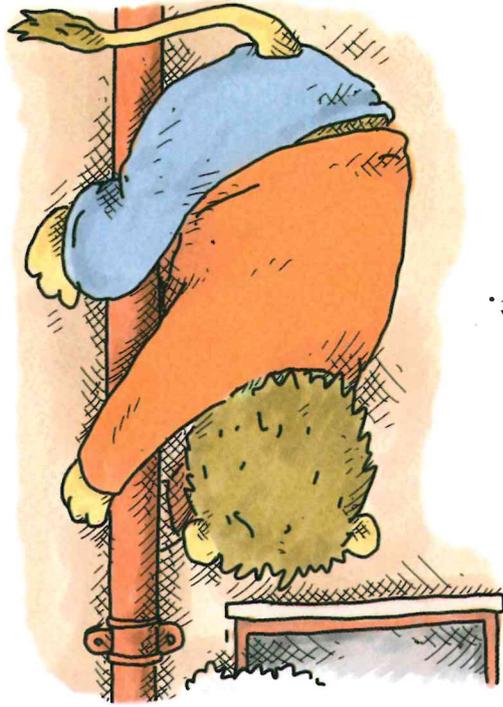


“But my bottom half won't fit,”

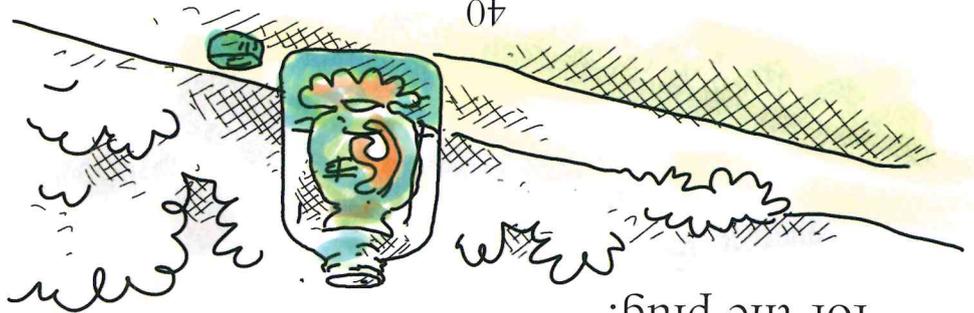
said Geoff. “The window's too small.”

“Leave this to me,” said Joe.

Now, it was
Super Joe Lion
to the rescue!
Up the drainpipe.
In through the
window.



He knew what he must do.
First, off with his Clumping
Clumpers.

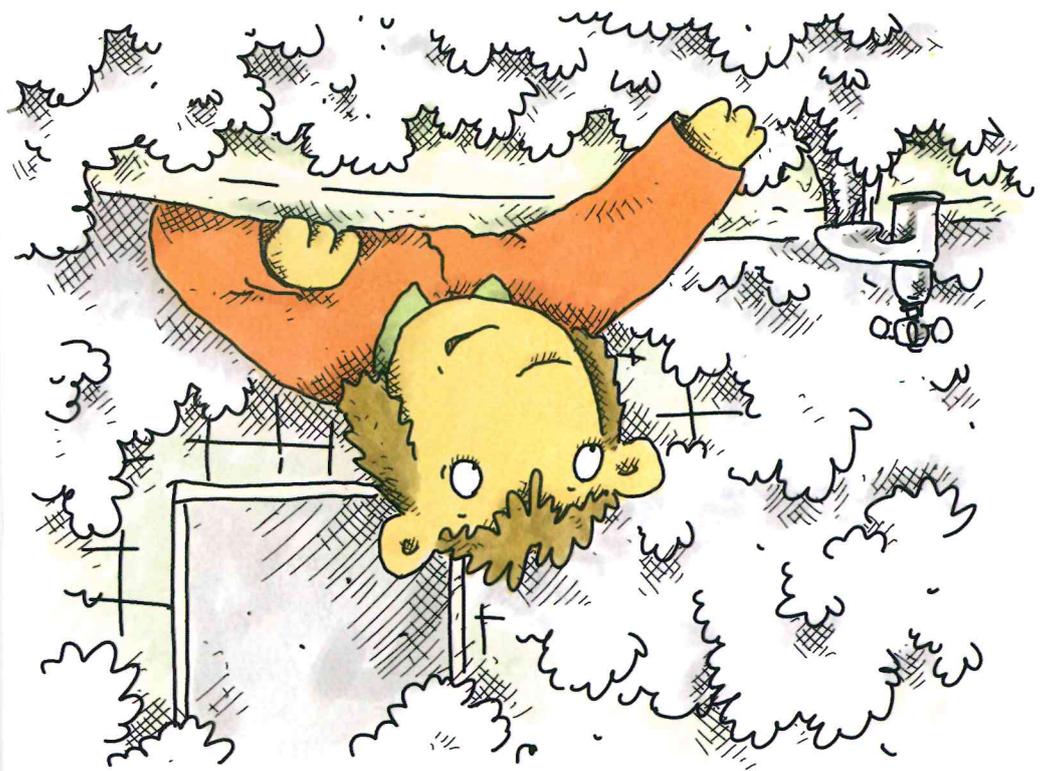


for the plug.

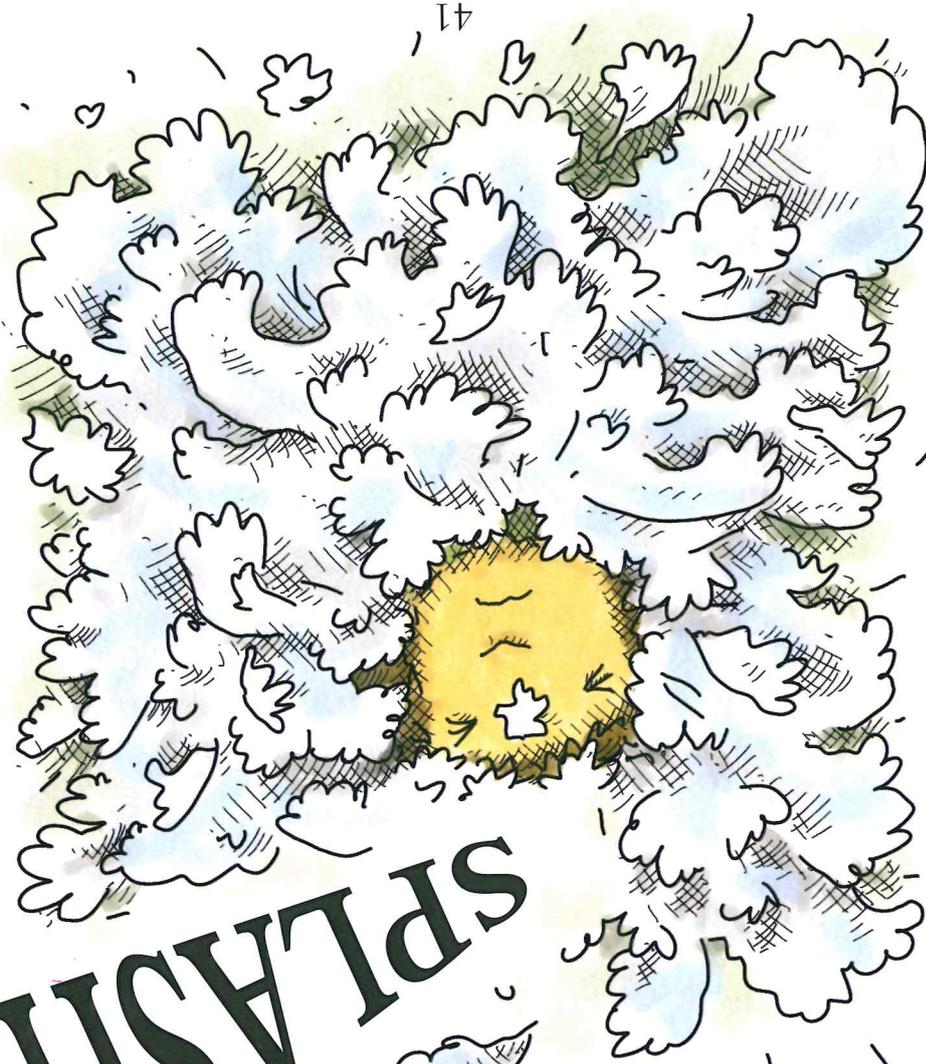
“I must act at once!” Joe reached

and lots of soapy bubbles with it!

The water was rising fast –



SPLASH!



It was too far down.

He would have to go in!

He got up on the side of the bath

and jumped.



out the window.

Joe whooshed the bubbles

GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!

The water gurgled down.

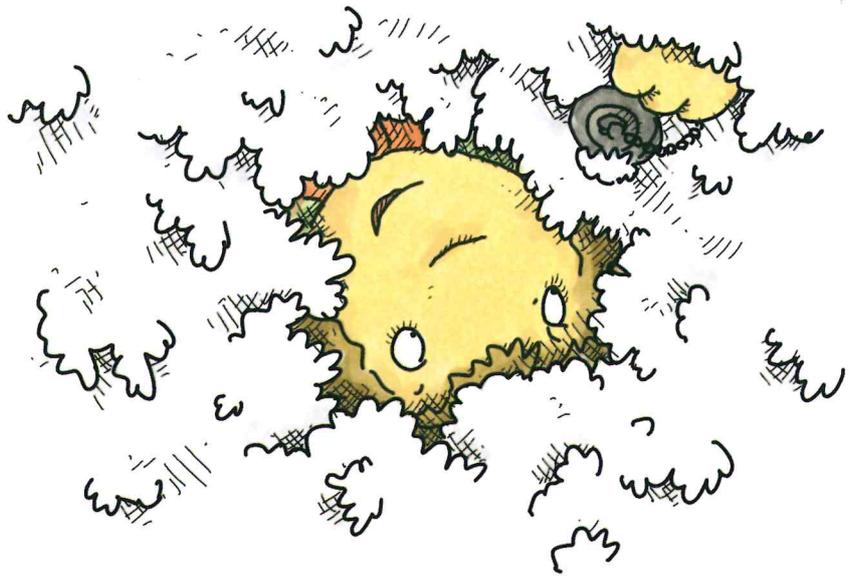
out it came.

“Got it!” He pulled the plug and

But he must get to the plug.

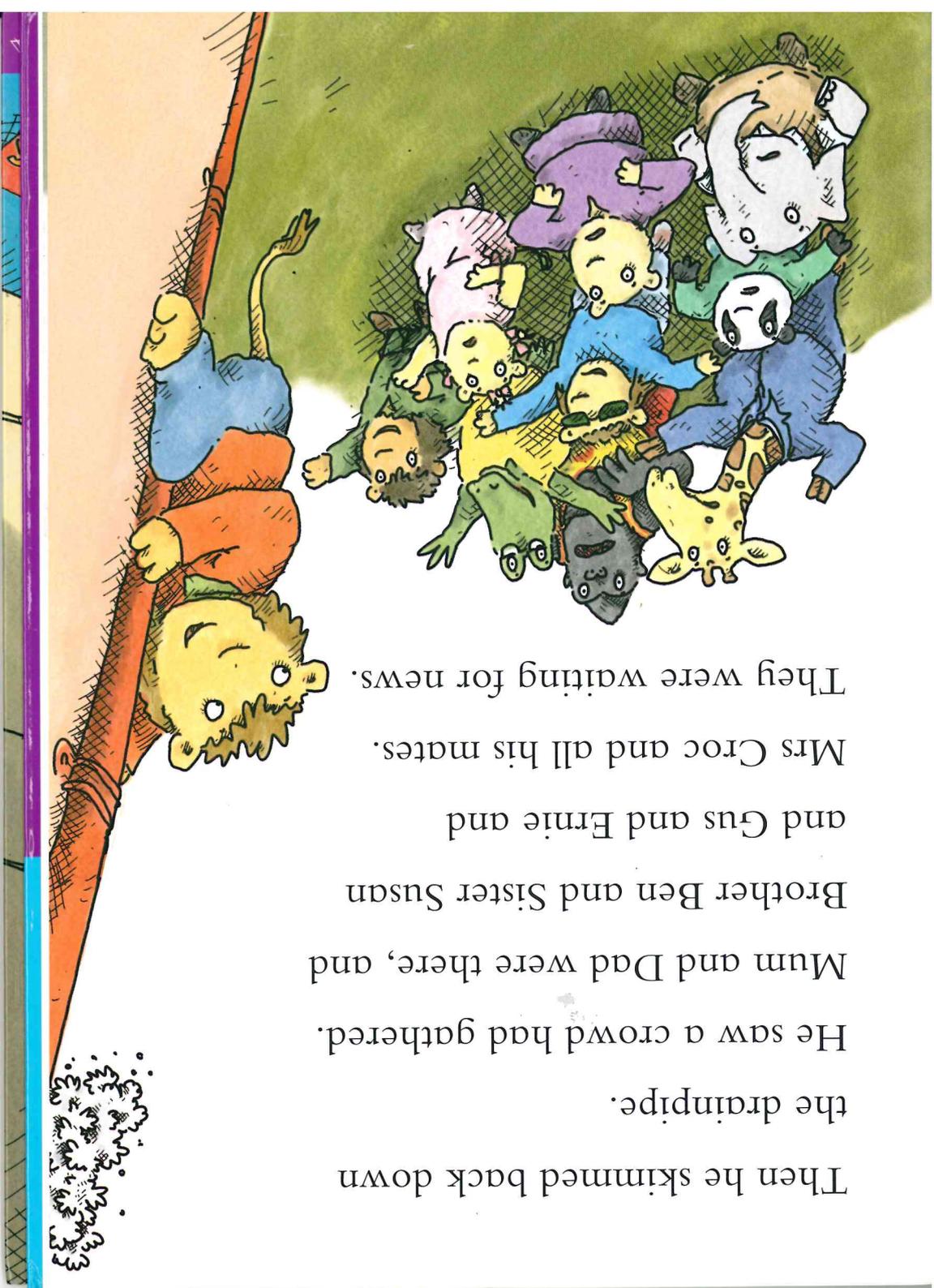
and his breath was running out.

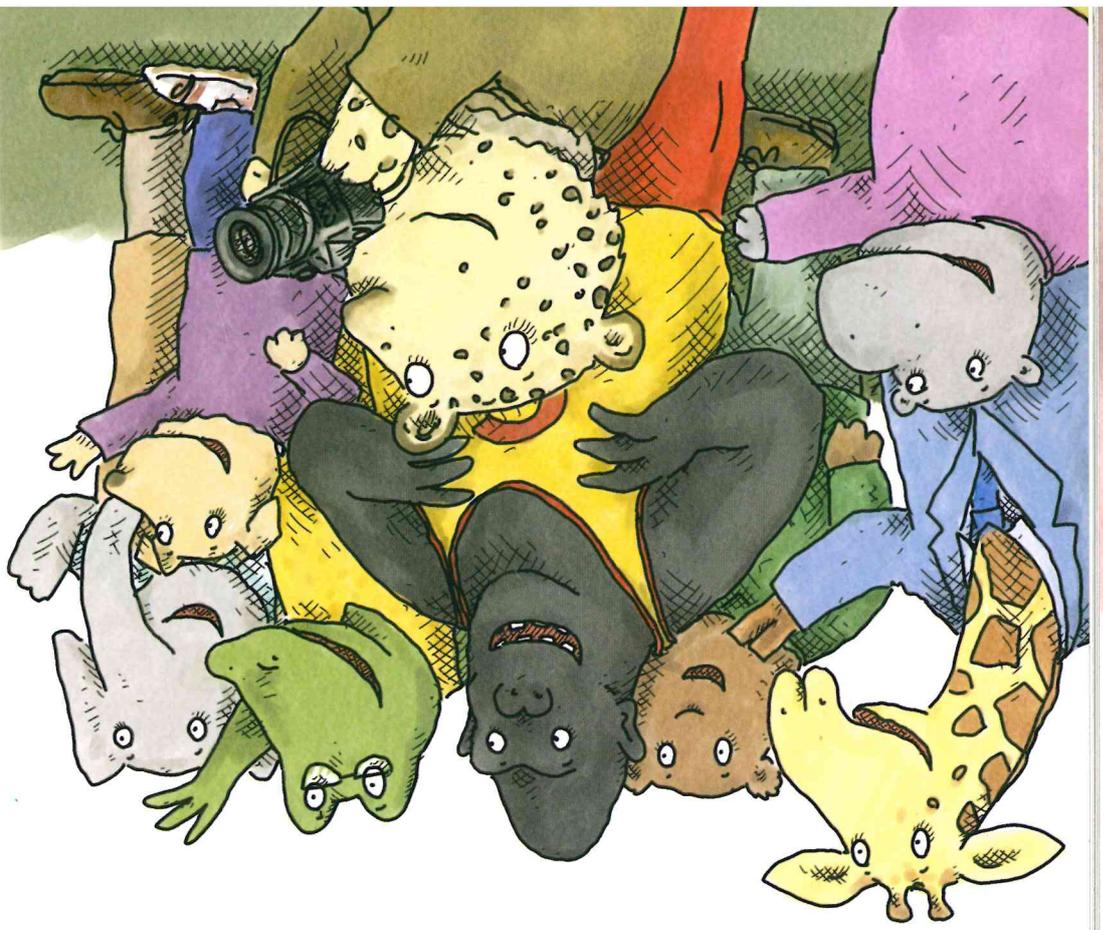
He couldn't see through the bubbles



Then he skimmed back down
the drainpipe.

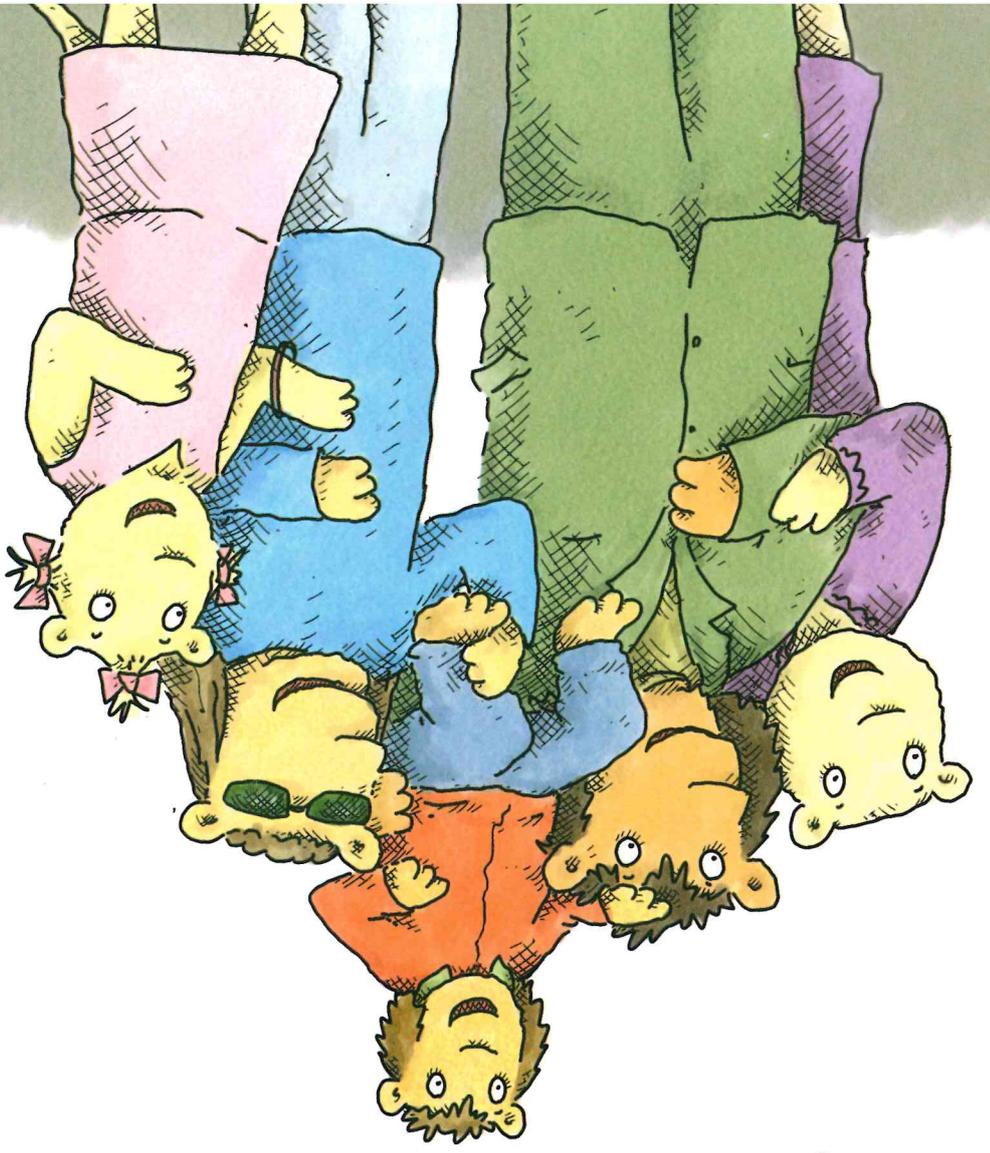
Mum and Dad were there, and
He saw a crowd had gathered.
Brother Ben and Sister Susan
and Gus and Ernie and
Mrs Croc and all his mates.
They were waiting for news.





Quickly, Joe told them:
"Geoff's house is safe from flooding
by bath water and it's safe from
bubbles, too!"
They all gave a cheer.
"Hurrah for Super Joe Lion!"

Joe felt very proud.
He was Super Joe Lion – just
as he was. He didn't need his
Clumping Clumpers.



“My clumping days are over,” said Joe.
“Being me is best. I don’t want to be
bigger . . . Well, not yet!”



About the Author and Illustrator

Kara May was born in Australia, and as a child she acted on the radio. She says, "Even though I am grown-up now, I am still the smallest in my family, so I know just how Joe Lion feels." Kara used to work in the theatre and has written lots of plays for children, but now she writes books full-time.

Jonathan Allen played bass guitar in a band before he graduated from Art School. He says, "When I was young I wanted to be a famous rock star, like the one in the poster on Brother Ben's bedroom wall." Now Jonathan is well known for illustrating children's books . . . but he does still play his bass guitar!



Tips for Beginner Readers

1. Think about the cover and the title of the book. What do you think it will be about? While you are reading, think about what might happen next and why.

2. As you read, ask yourself if what you're reading makes sense. If it doesn't, try rereading or look at the pictures for clues.

3. If there is a word that you do not know, look carefully at the letters, sounds, and word parts that you do know. Blend the sounds to read the word. Is this a word you know? Does it make sense in the sentence?

4. Think about the characters, where the story takes place, and the problems the characters in the story faced. What are the important ideas in the beginning, middle and end of the story?

5. Ask yourself questions like:
Did you like the story?
Why or why not?
How did the author make it fun to read?
How well did you understand it?

Maybe you can understand the story better if you read it again!

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- ✓ Short, numbered chapters
- ✓ Clear, simple sentences
- ✓ Fun, satisfying story



New readers will love *I Am Reading* books. Each one has brilliant colour pictures, easy-to-read type and great stories by top authors. This series bridges the gap between picture books and chapter books and develops confidence by making reading a pleasure. You'll want to read them again and again!

Tiny Joe Lion loves his new boots which make him taller. But when his friend gets in trouble finds out heroes can be short too . . .

