

Julia Donaldson

Oxford Reading Tree



The Deer and the Earwig

Phonics

Songbirds



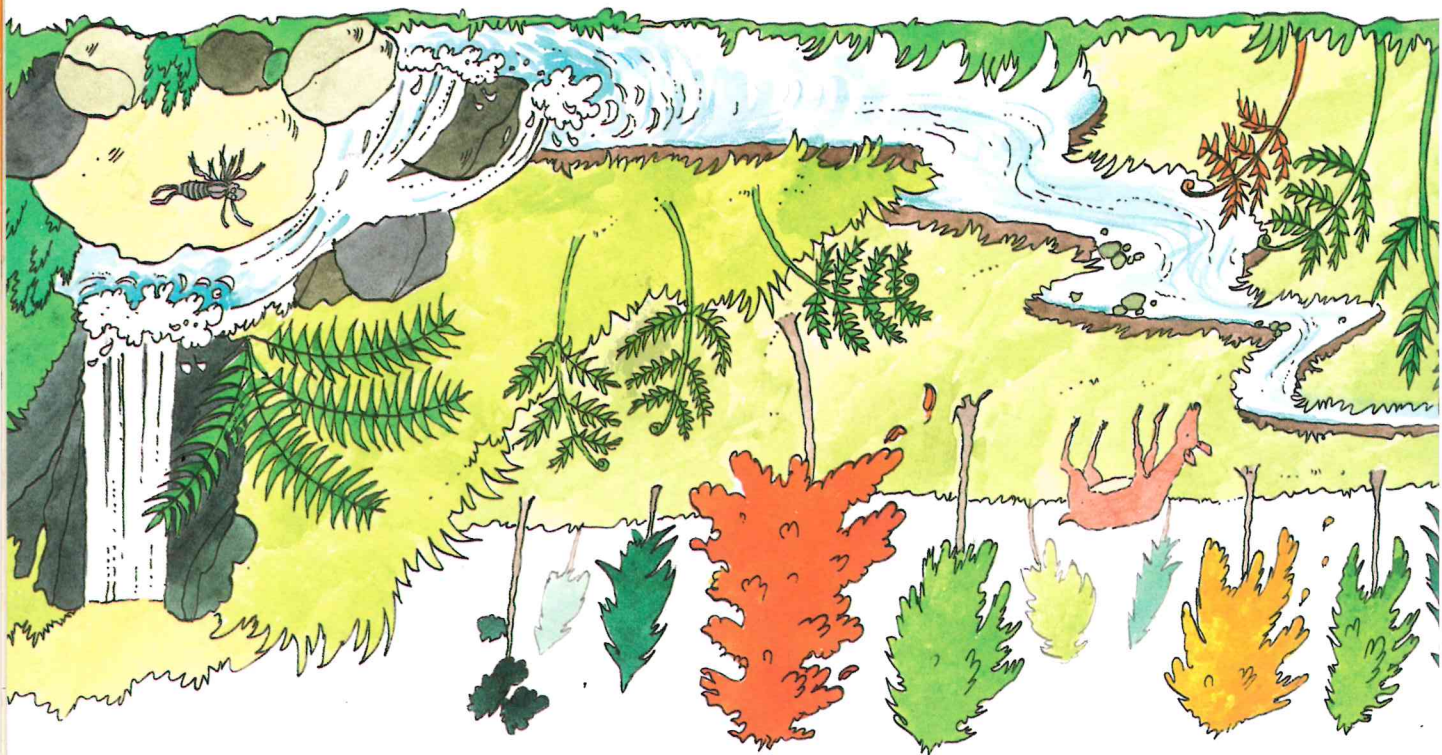


Talk together

- Ask your child to point to each letter pattern in the box on the back cover and say the sound that it makes in words. Tell your child that each of these letter patterns can make the same sound. Stress that some letter patterns can make more than one sound.
- Look out for these letter patterns in the story and try and remember the sound they make.

Reading the story

- Remember children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable so give lots of praise.
- Encourage your child to try to read any words they don't recognize by saying the sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *h - ear*), then running the sounds together quickly. If they find it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first and then see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *says*). Read these words to your child if they don't recognize them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *s* in *says*). This will help your child to remember these words.



The Deer and the Farwig

A Poem and a Story

I Hear with my Little Ear page 2
The Deer and the Farwig page 10



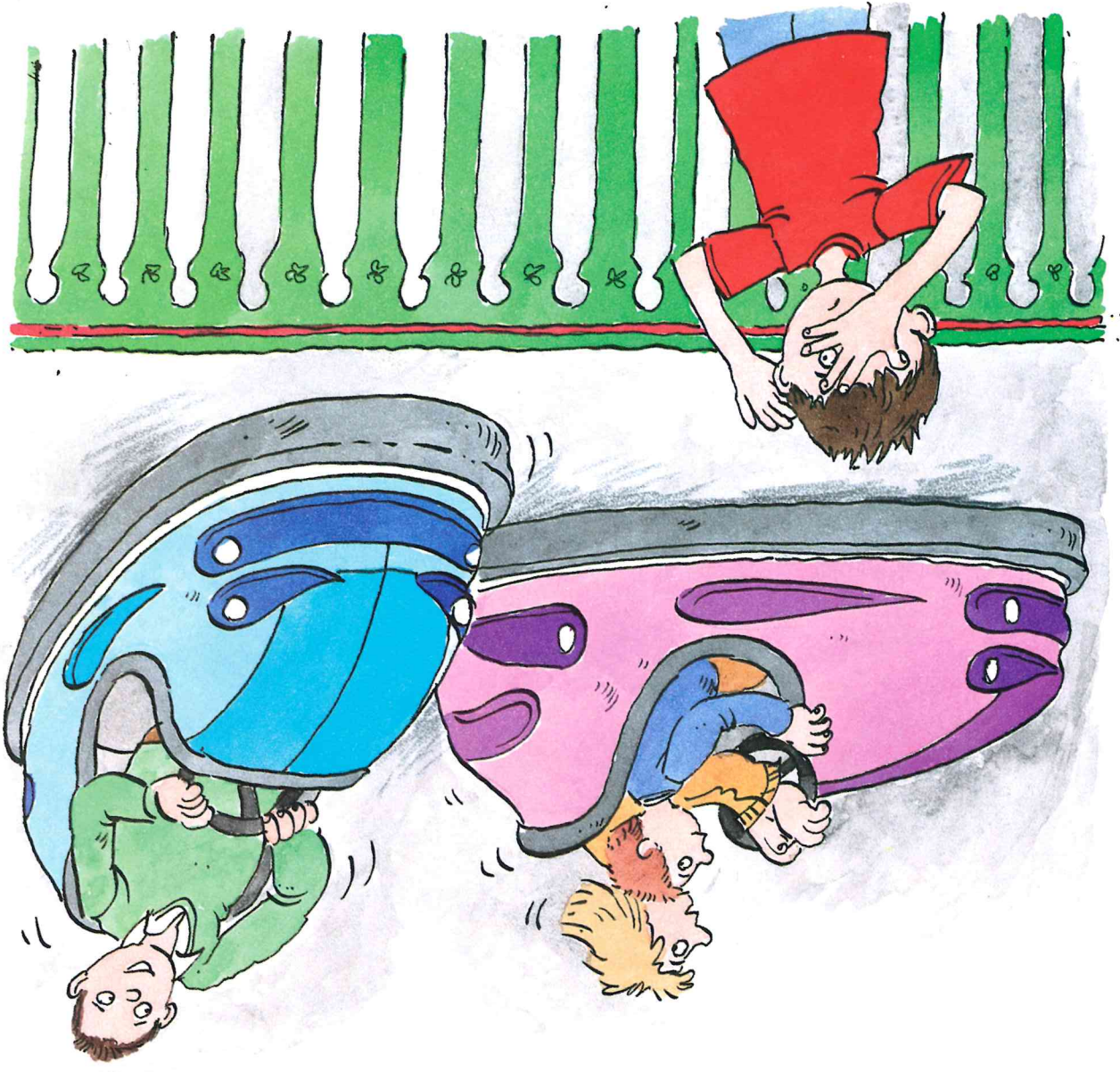
I Hear with my Little Ear

I hear with my little ear. . .





Hooray! Hooray!
A very loud cheer.



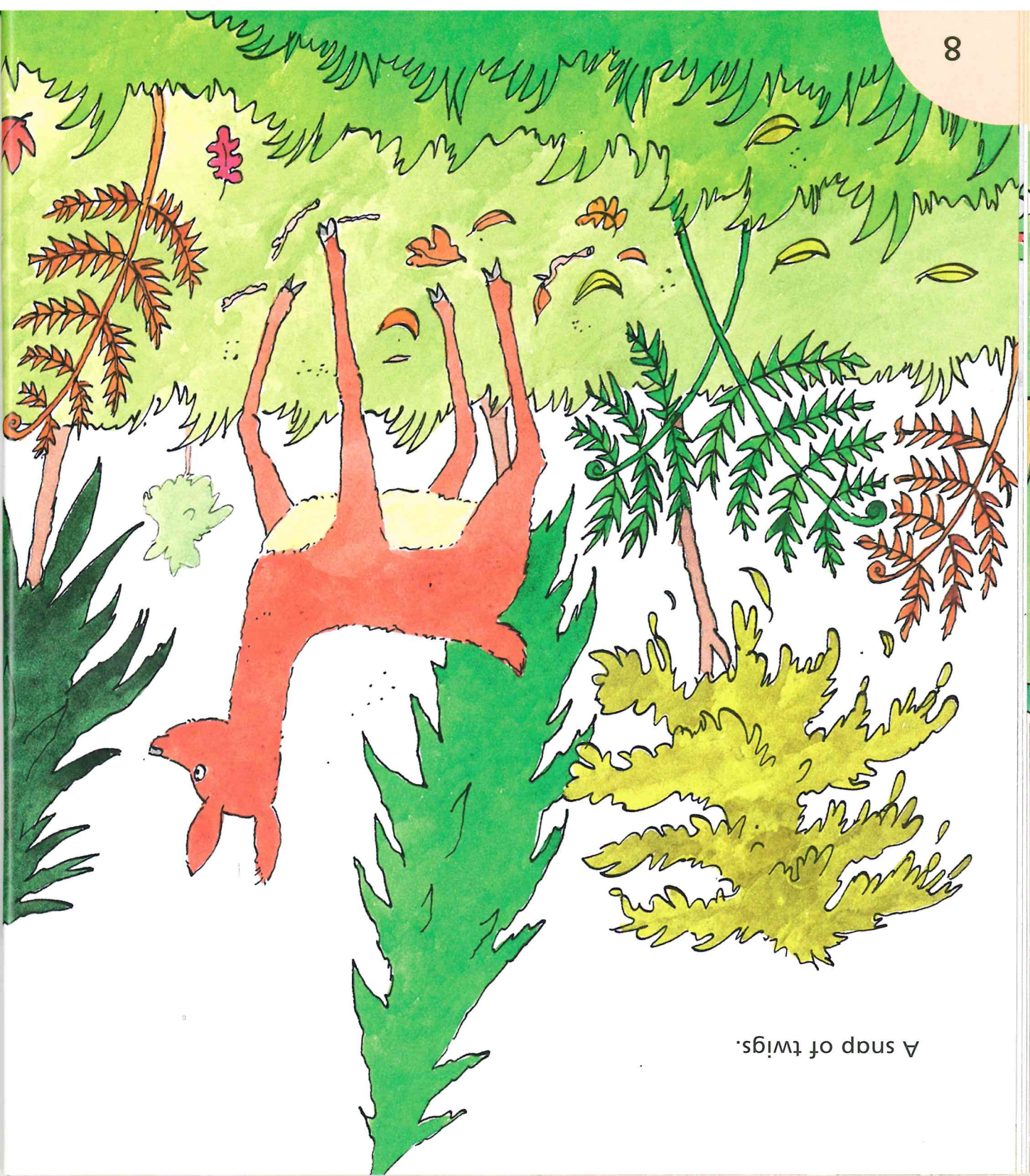
I hear with my little ear. . .



A very loud bump!
(My dad can't steer.)

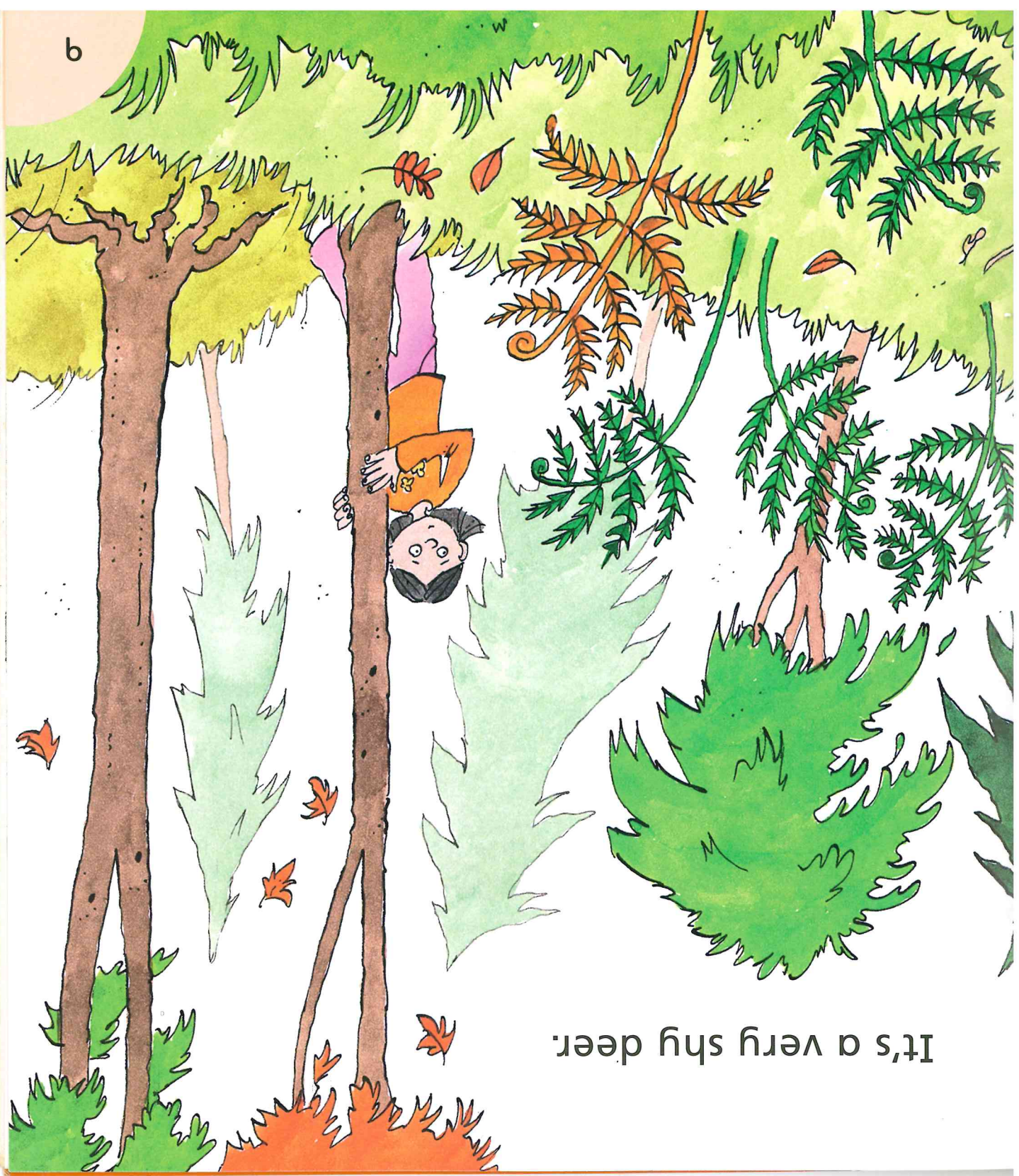


I hear with my little ear. . .

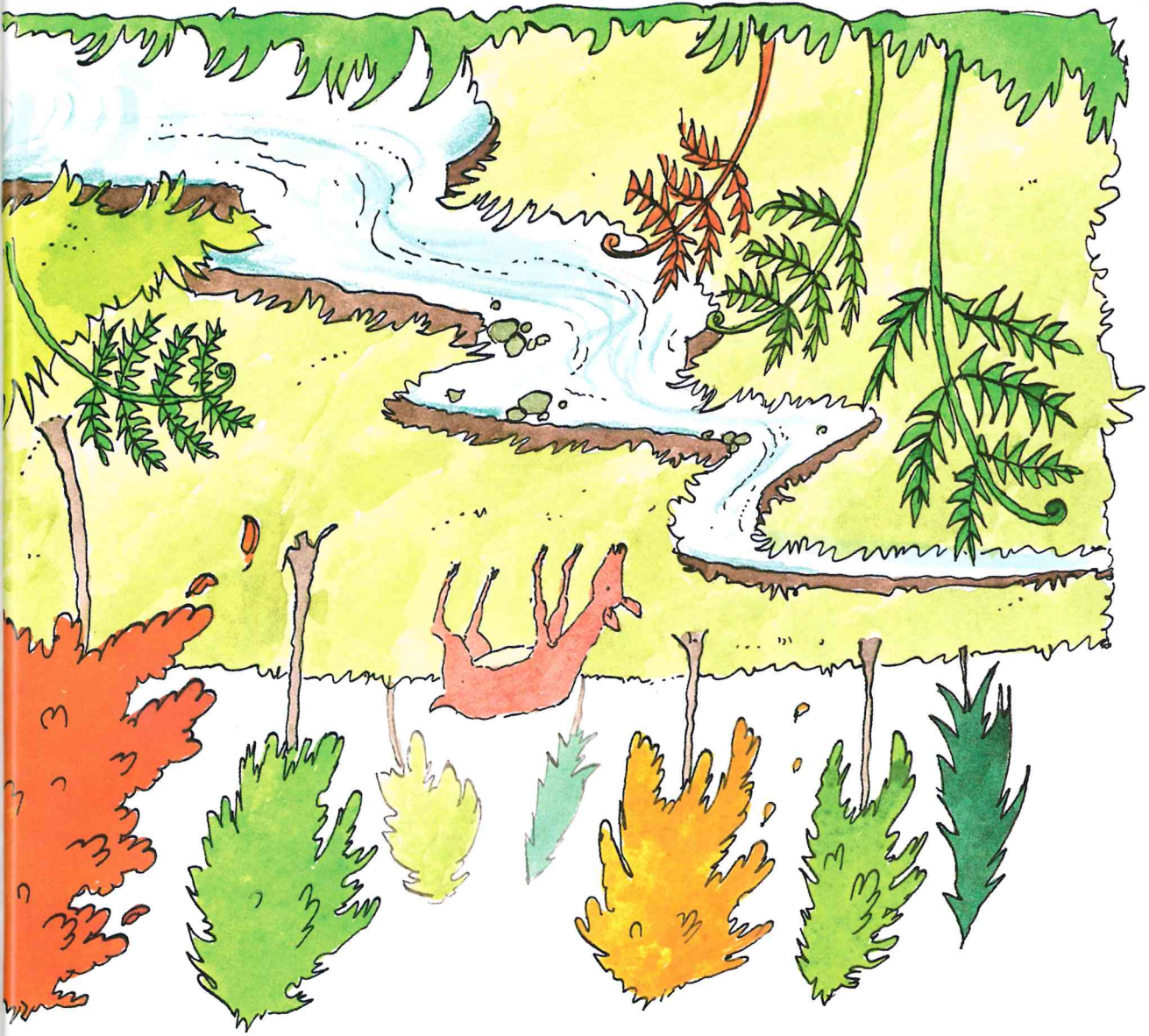


A snap of twigs.

b



It's a very shy deer.

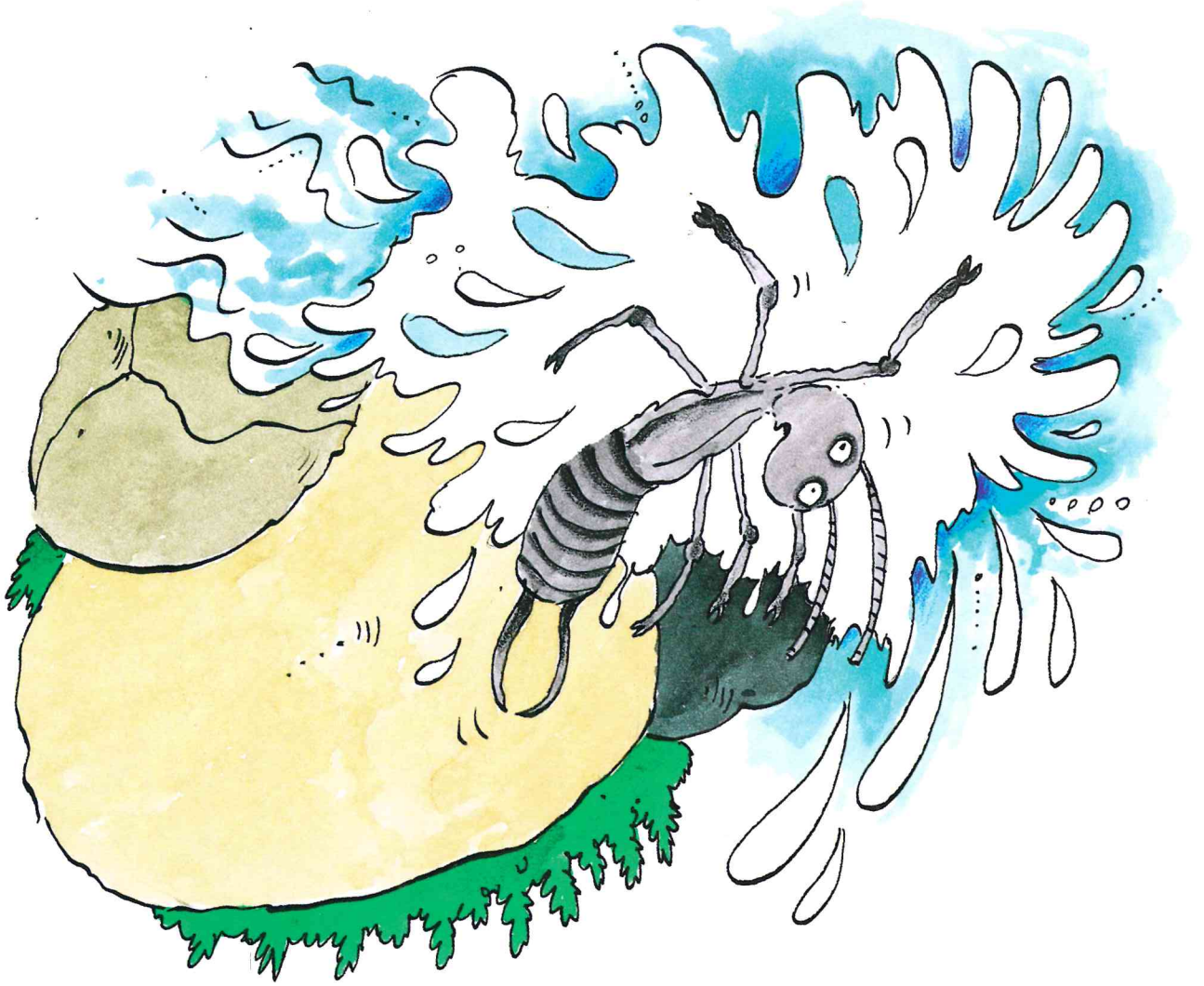


Here is a stream. Here is a deer.

The Deer and the Farwig



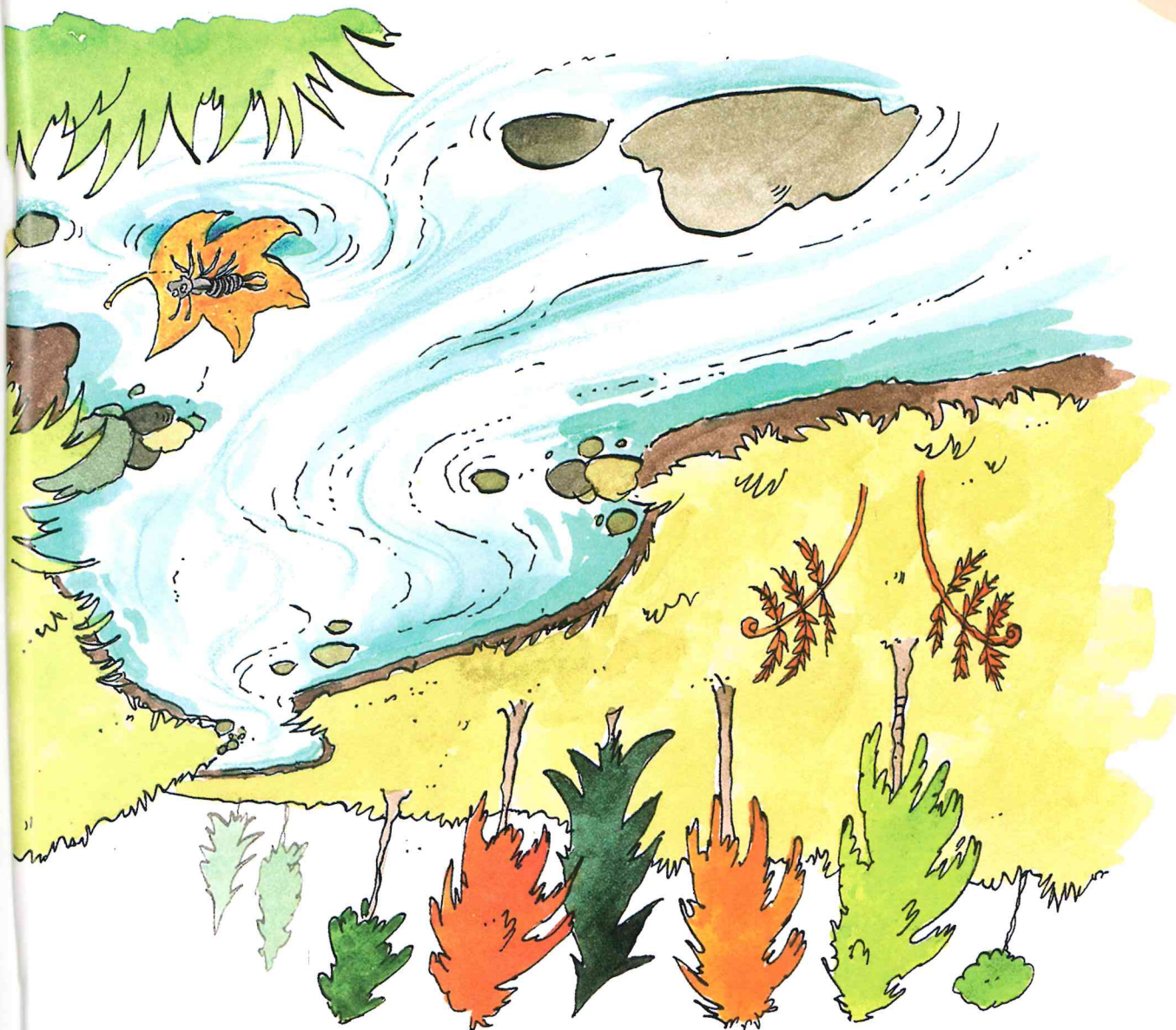
And here is a little black earwig.



Oh dear! The earwig has fallen into
the stream!
"Help! Help!" he cries.



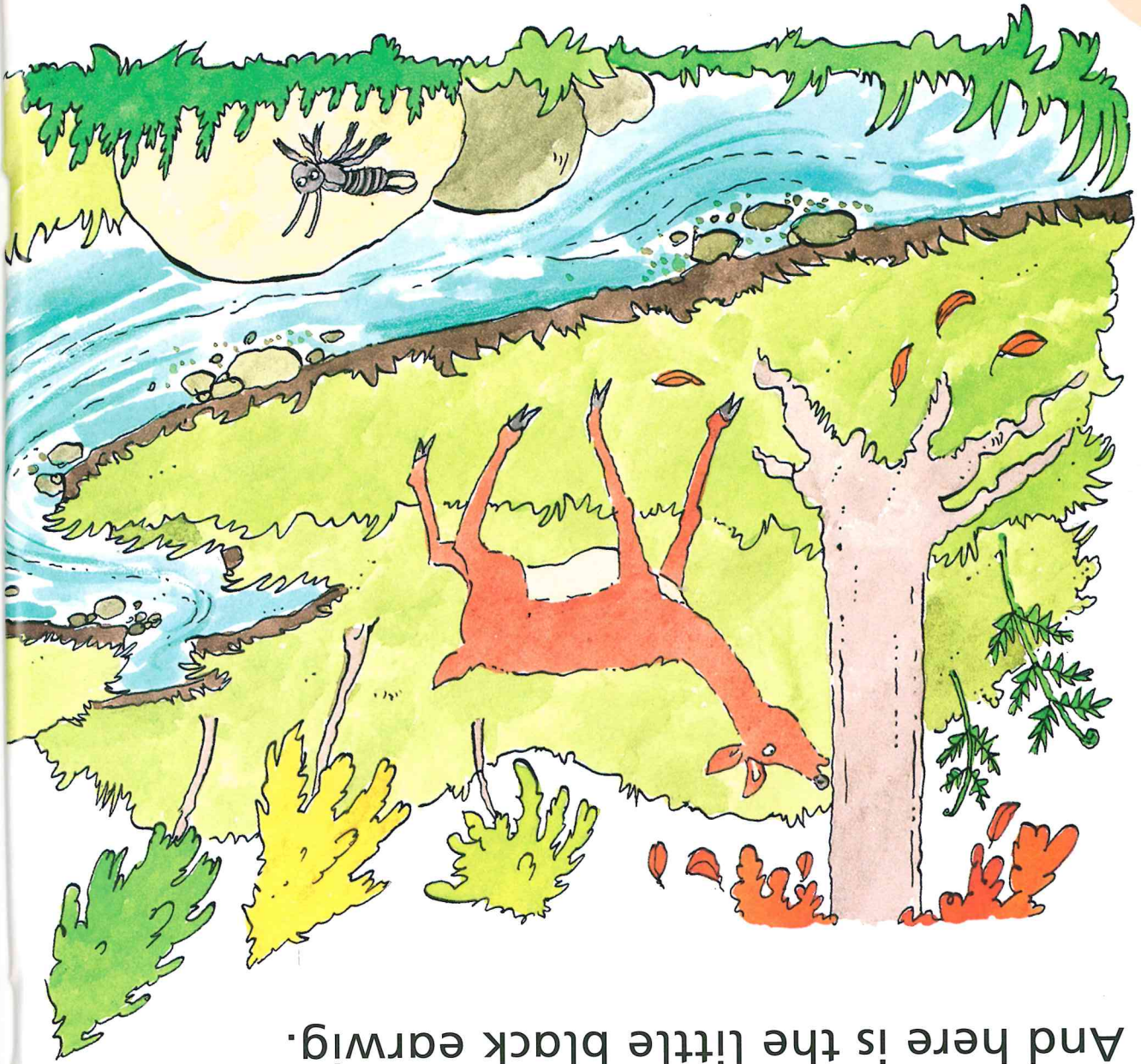
"Do not fear, I am here," says the deer.
She drops a leaf into the stream.



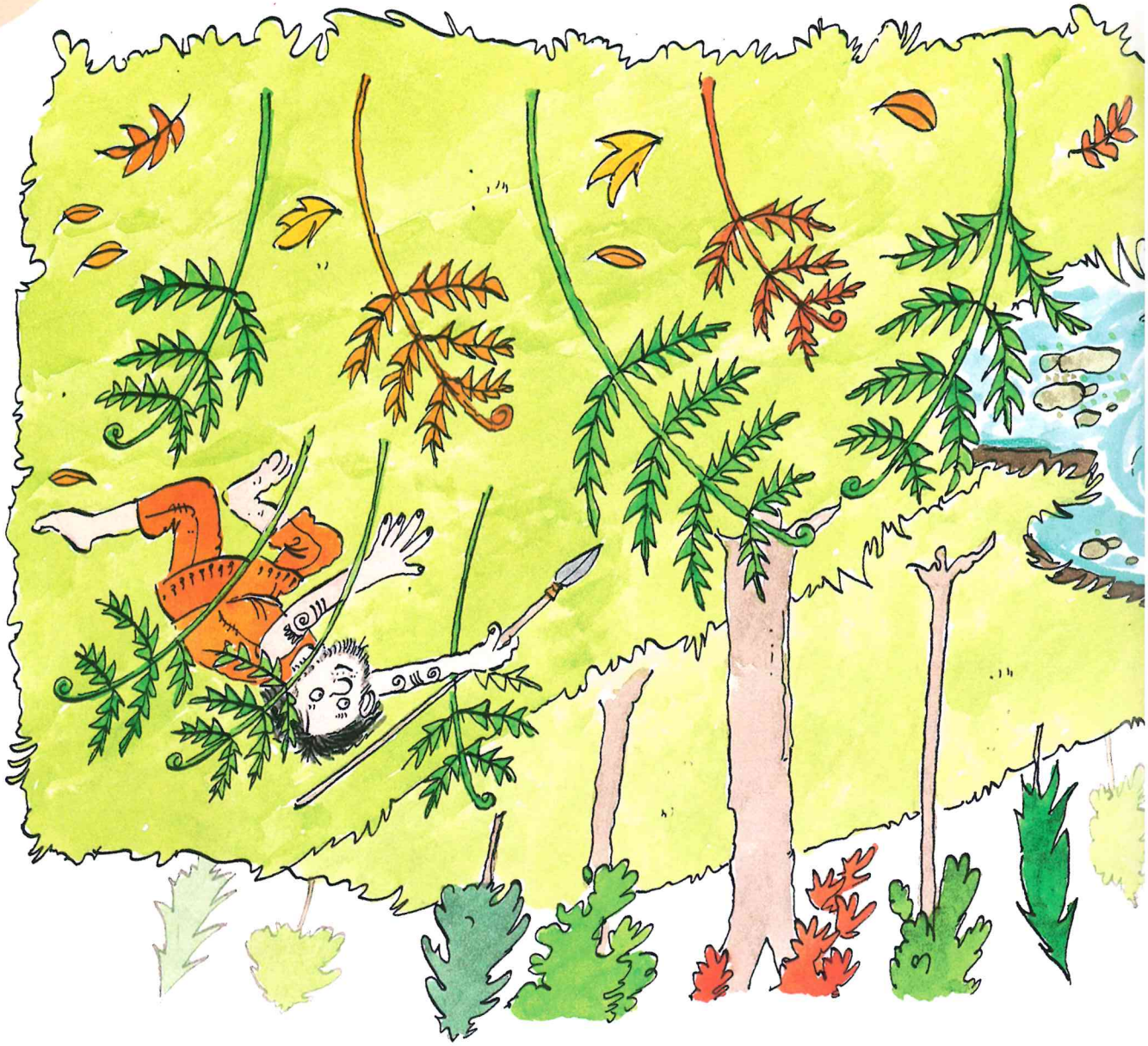
The earwig climbs on to the leaf.
He sails to the bank.



"Thank you, deer," says the earwig.
"You saved my life."



A week later. . .
Here is the stream. Here is the deer.
And here is the little black earwig.



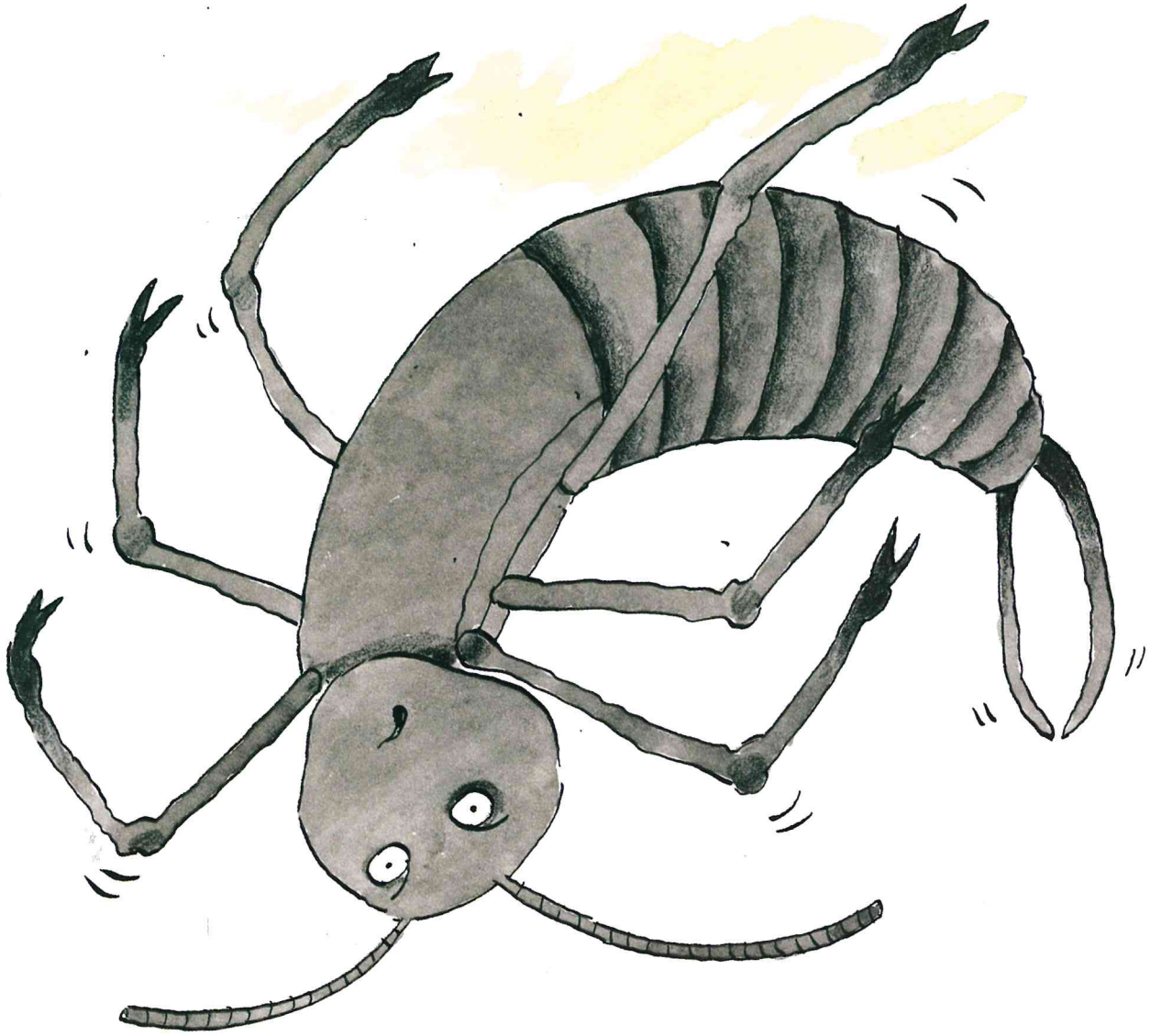
Oh dear! Here is a hunter!
He has a spear.



The deer can't see the hunter.
She can't hear him.



Help! The hunter lifts his spear.



But here comes the earwig.



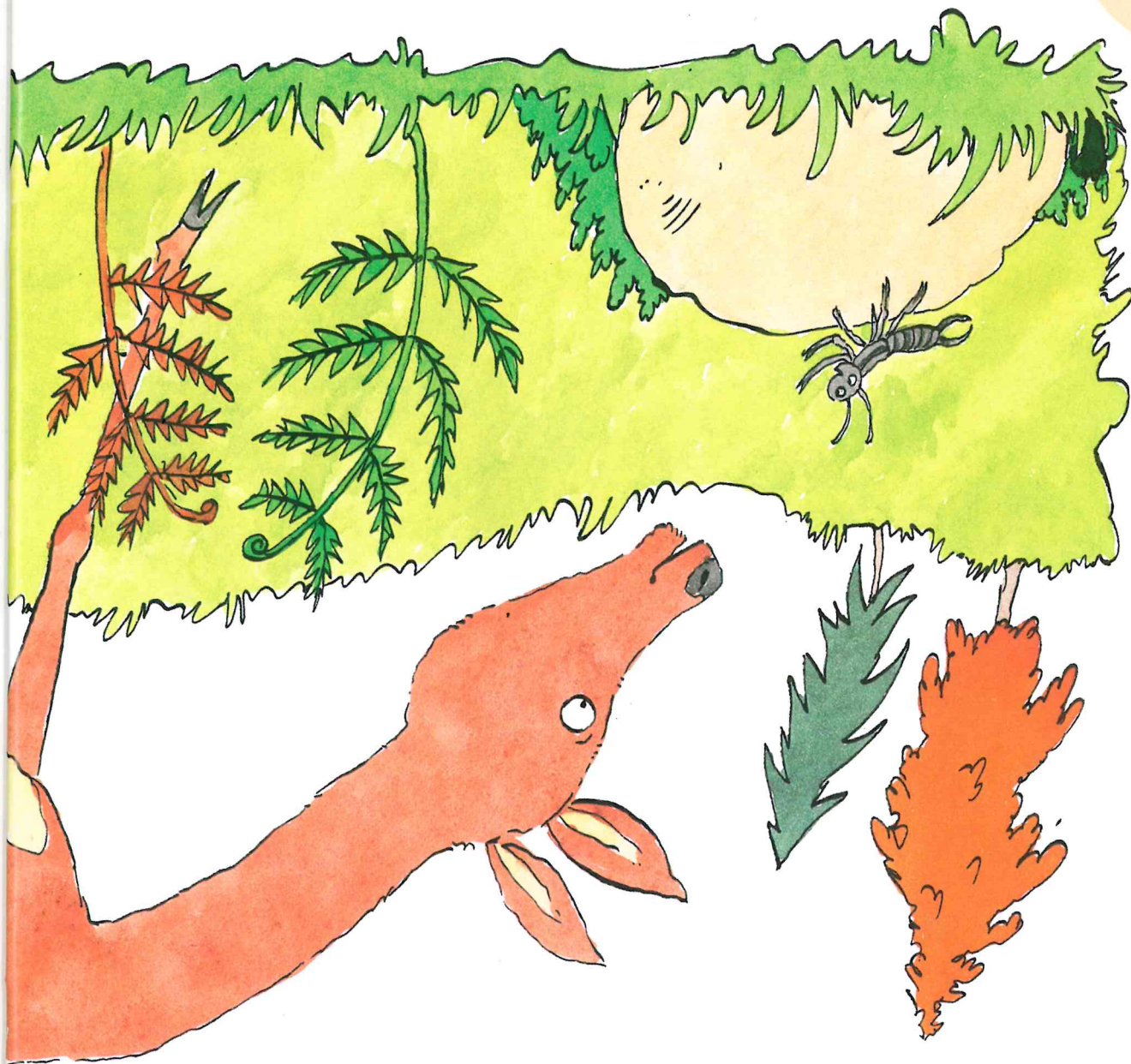
"Do not fear, I am here!" he says.



The earwig nips the hunter's ear.
The hunter jumps and drops the spear.



The deer runs away.



"Thank you, earwig," says the deer.
"You saved my life."

Check understanding

- Ask your child
- How did the earwig save the deer? (He bit the hunter's ear which made him drop the spear and the deer ran away.)

Check knowledge of letter-pattern sounds

- Ask your child to
- Read pages 3 and 4. Find some words which rhyme. (*hear, ear, cheer*)
 - Identify what sound is the same in all these words. (The end sound *ear*.)
 - Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ear* sound in these words.
 - Read page 17. Find some more words which contain the long *ear* sound. (*dear, Here, spear*)
 - Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ear* sound in these words.
 - Find a word in the book which sounds the same as *dear* but has a different spelling and different meaning. (*deer*)

Example phonic words: hear ear earwig dear fear
spear cheer steer deer here
Context words: climbs comes says

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Stage 6 Songbirds
Tar's Party
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Where Were You, Bert?
Clare and the Fair
The Deer and the Farwig
Jack and the Giants

Focus Phonics
ear (as in near)
Letter Pattern
ear eer ere



I hear with my little ear . . .
a poem and a story.

Story by Julia Donaldson • Pictures by Scoular Anderson
Series editor Clare Kirtley

The Deer and the Farwig



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Phonics

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