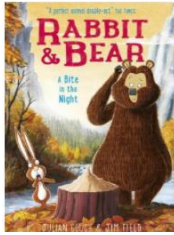


Extract: Bear and Rabbit

Author: Julian Gough



Rabbit's knees began to tremble. "Wh... wh... what kind of ferocious Monster could EAT a TREE?"

"I don't know," said the Bear. "A hungry one? Which reminds me, let's get some honey, to put on berries, for breakfast."

"WHY AREN'T YOU WORRYING?" shouted Rabbit.

"Because worrying doesn't fix things," said Bear. "But breakfast does."

So Bear and Rabbit went to look for the Honey Bee Tree. But the Honey Tree was gone. The stump was covered with giant tooth marks.

"Are you worried yet?" said Rabbit.

"Hmmm," said Bear. "Woodpecker lives in a tree..."

"Oh no," said Rabbit.

Rabbit ran, and Bear walked, until they could see Woodpecker's tree.

"Oh, it's still there!" said Rabbit. His knees and elbows stopped trembling. "Hi, Woodpecker!"

"Hi! Hi! Hi!" shouted Woodpecker from his nest. "I'll be out in a minute! I am packing! To Go! Go! Go!"

"Where?" said Bear.

"South! For the Winter! More Parties! More Fun! Fun! Fun! Warmer! HA HA HA!"

"I'll miss you, Woodpecker," said Rabbit.

"And your drumming." Rabbit signed.

No more music and dancing in the long evenings...

Then a loud CRUNCH came from Near By. CRUNCH!

Retrieval questions

1. Who is the story about?
2. What does ferocious mean? What does bear want to put on his berries?
3. What was woodpecker doing when Rabbit and Bear found her? Where is Woodpecker going?
4. What does it mean when it says rabbit's knees began to tremble?
5. What tree did Bear and Rabbit go looking for?

Can you summarise the extract?

Inference and deduction questions

1. Why does Bear say he isn't worried?
2. Why do you think the tree was called the Honey Bee Tree?
3. Why are some words written in capital letters?
4. How do we know Rabbit isn't frightened anymore?
5. What do you think the loud crack was?
6. Can you predict what could happen next?