

# The Turning of the Year



Written by Elizabeth Charman  
Illustrated by Eszter Szepvolgyi

## Green words

Practises a-e, ey, ei, eigh

came

wade

grey

safe

gave

reins

lane

gate

veins

case

pale

veil

lame

they

neigh

## Red words

Previous red words

any

people

great

their

poor

through

New red words

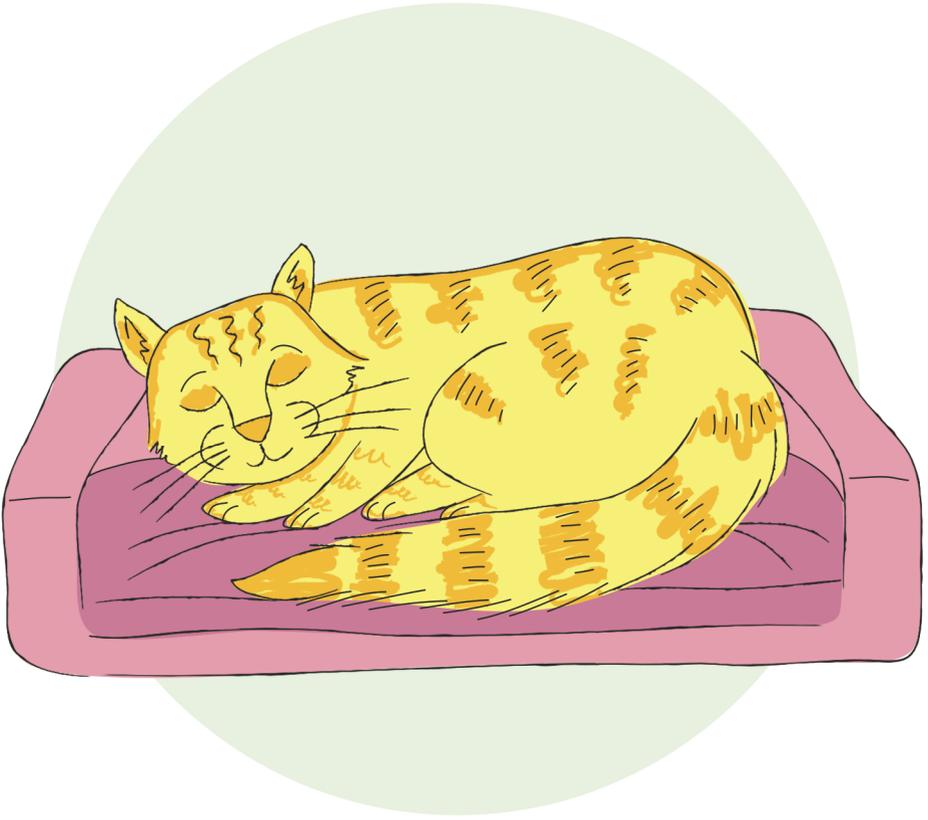
floor

plant\*

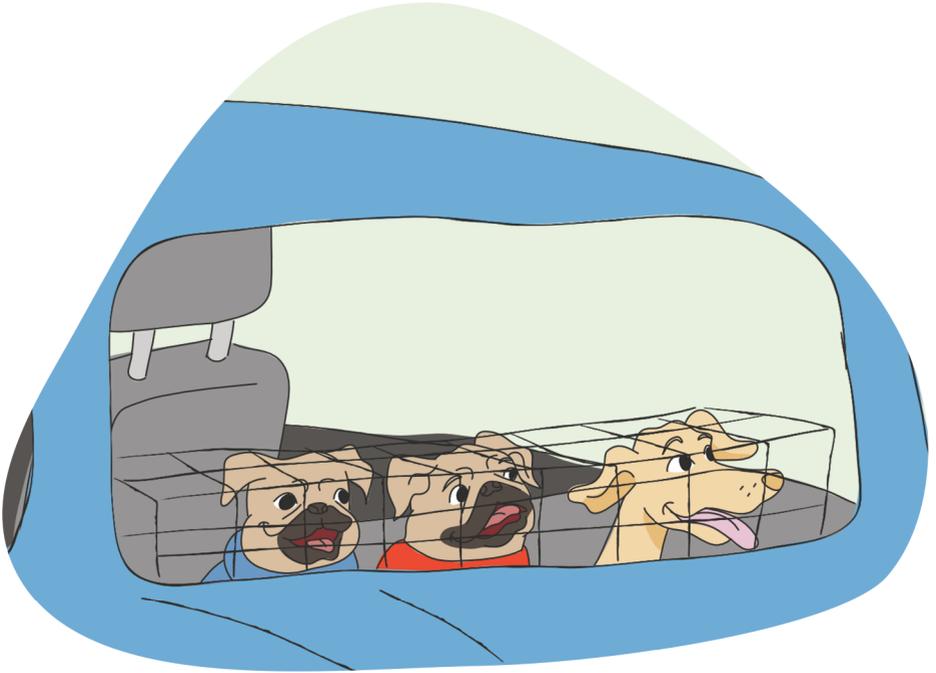
\*This word may be tricky depending on regional accent.



Pip, Sam, Nan, Dad, Alma, Huff and Puff had all come over to Jill's for a New Year ramble in the woods.



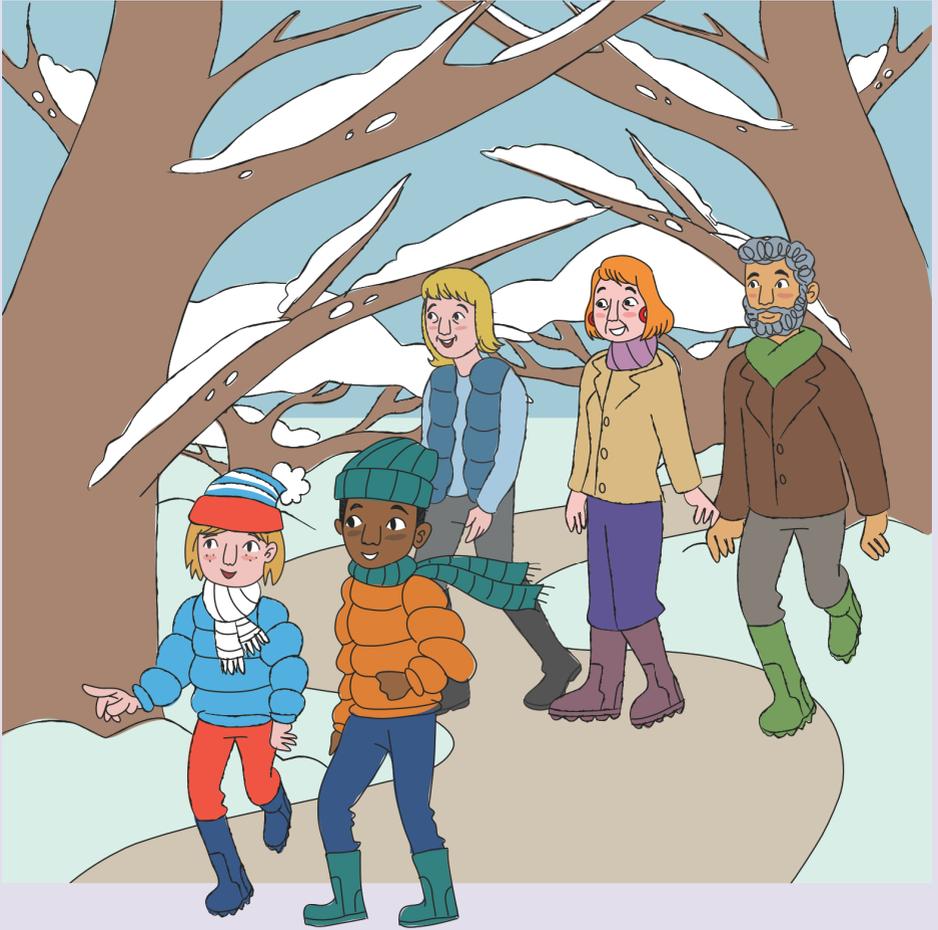
Kim Cat stayed snug in her bed on the floor. She made it clear that she did not like the dregs of winter.



But Huff and Puff liked any outing. Alma felt the same. If their friend Brock was going to be there, even better!



Nan opened the car boot and the dogs were off, like a cork out of a bottle. They sped away in a wagging, romping, delighted gang.



The people came along behind.  
They were all bundled up in boots,  
coats, scarves and hats.



It was a cold, bleak midwinter but they were glad to be part of it.



As they gathered to be safe to cross the lane, on the breeze came a neigh, a jingle and snorting.



“That will be Jim fussing his reins and guzzling down his oats,” said Jill. “I took him some hot mash in case he felt chilled. He’s a bit lame on one leg today, poor boy.”



“I get stiff in the cold, too,”  
said Nan.



They made their way into the woods and began to wade across the stream. Pip and Sam splashed in their boots.



Brock gave a great leap.  
Huff and Puff chugged on through.  
Alma picked her way over.



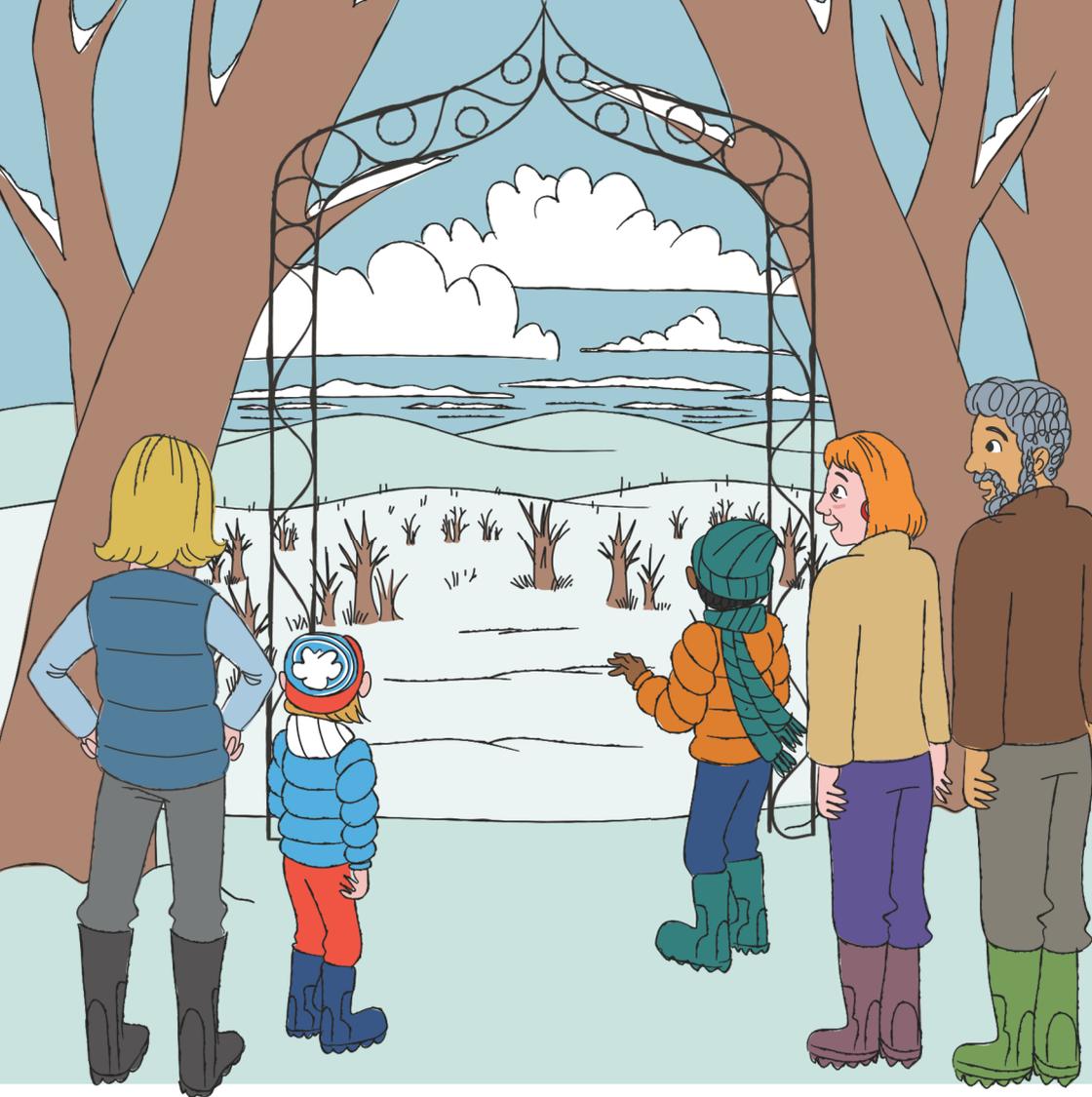
“Name game?” Pip asked Sam in a bit. “Great Snoring? Mumbles?”  
“No thanks,” said Sam. “I’m not in a games mood.”



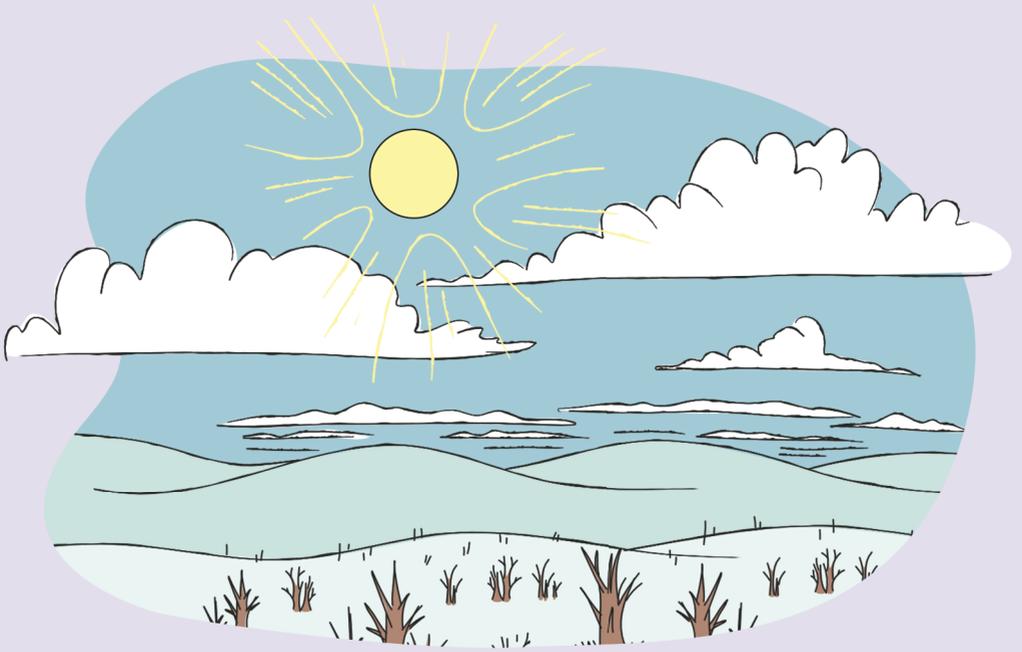
As they went on through the still trees, they all grew quiet.



The veins of the decaying plants made patterns on the woodland floor.



At the gate at the end of the wood,  
they paused to look out across the  
resting land.



As they stood, the veil of clouds parted and a flaming sunset lit the pale grey of the winter skies.

# Questions

Can you answer these questions about the story?

1. Did Kim Cat go on the ramble?
2. Which dogs went on the ramble?
3. What clues did you get that it was cold?
4. What made the jingling sound?
5. Do you think Pip and Sam were glad they had their boots?
6. What did they see at the end?

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# Shared Reader 45

a-e, ey, ei, eigh

Letters and Sounds

Phase 5

It's a great day for a winter ramble!



Success for All   
Phonics

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