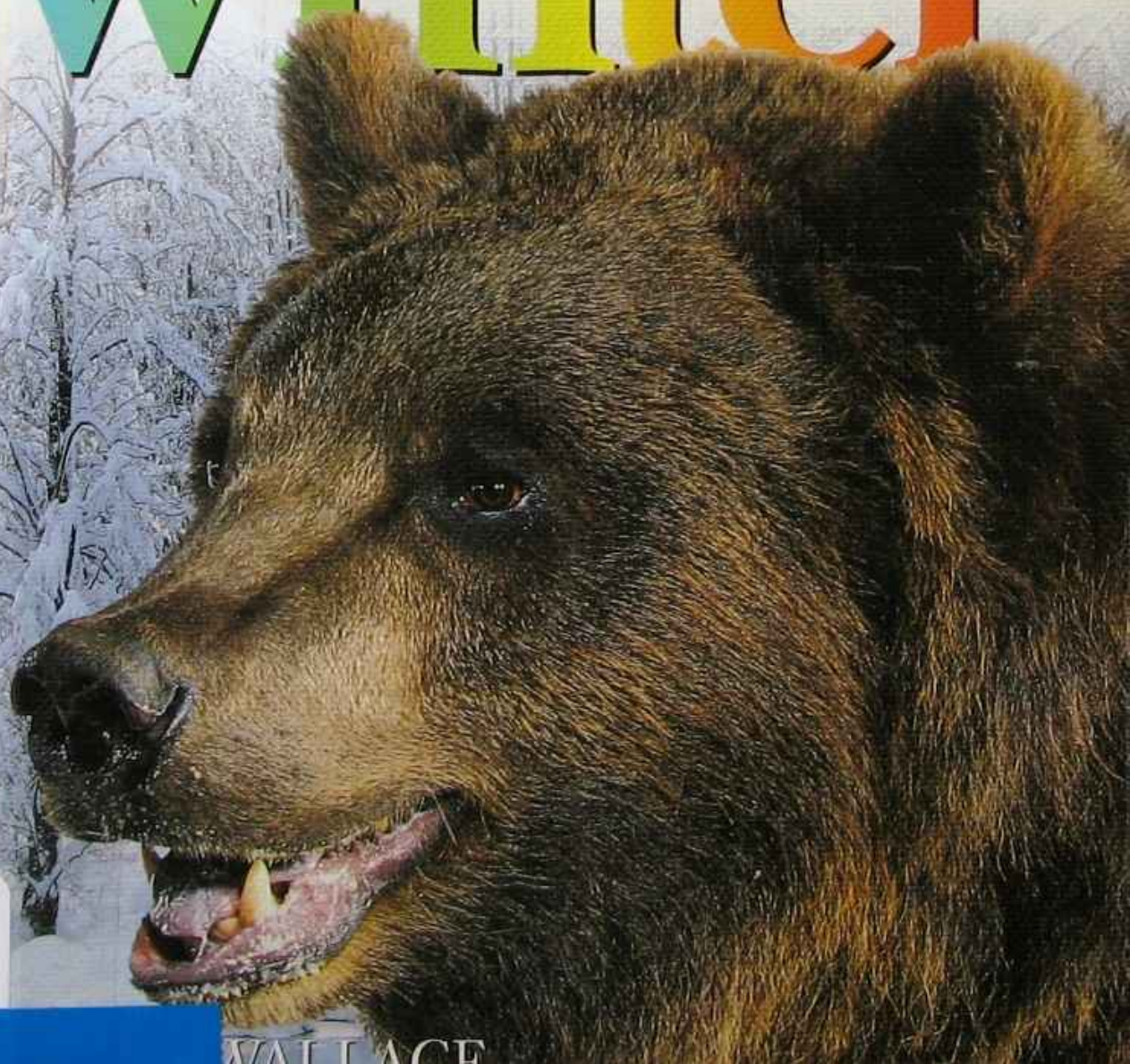




DORLING KINDERSLEY READERS

BEGINNING  
**1**  
TO READ

# A bed for the winter



WALLACE



A fluffy-tailed dormouse  
stops by a meadow.

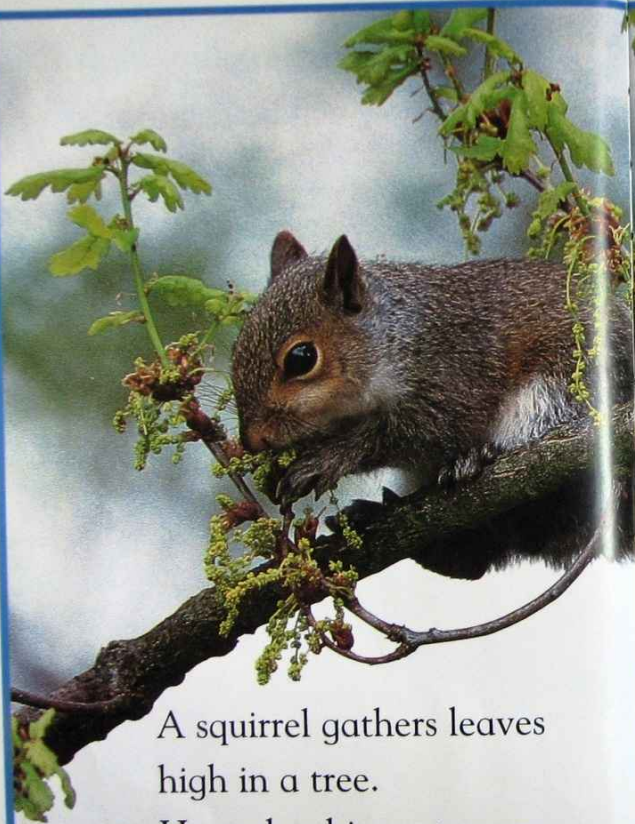


Cold rain is falling.  
Soon snow will be coming.

The dormouse is looking  
for somewhere to sleep.  
She needs a bed for the winter.



meadow



A squirrel gathers leaves  
high in a tree.  
He makes his nest warm  
for the cold winter weather.



nest

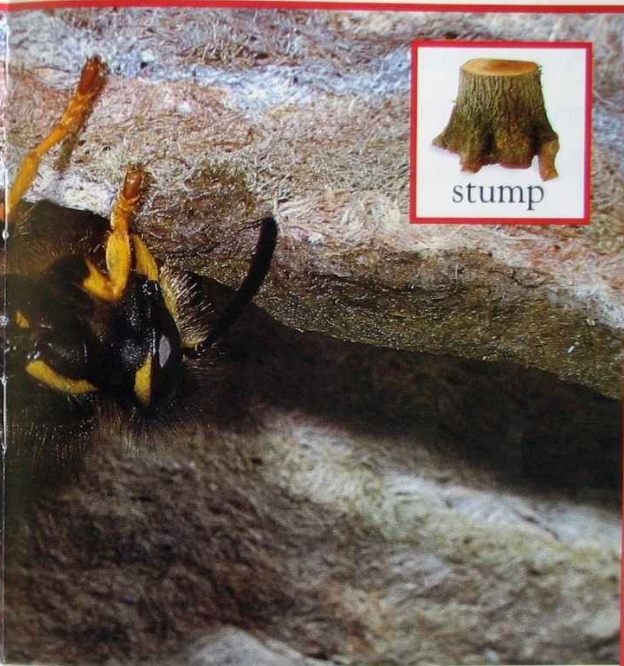
But a nest in the treetops  
is too high for a dormouse.  
The dormouse looks up,  
then scurries by.







A queen wasp sleeps  
under an oak stump.  
She has squeezed through  
a crack in the rotten wood.



But a crack in an oak stump  
is too small for a dormouse.  
The dormouse looks in,  
then scurries by.



A golden-eyed toad sleeps  
under a stone.

It is muddy and wet  
and the toad's skin is cold.

But it's too wet for a dormouse  
under a stone.

The dormouse looks in,  
then scurries by.





A mother brown bear  
sleeps in a den.  
She is furry and warm.  
She stretches and yawns.

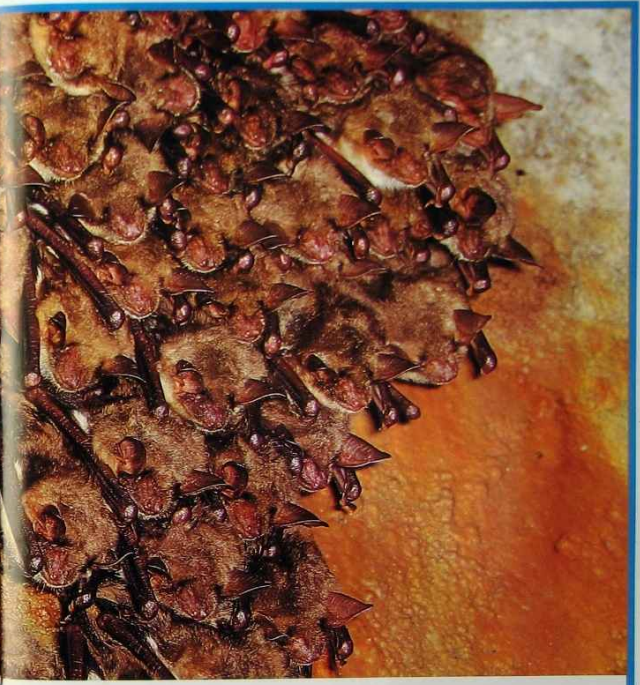
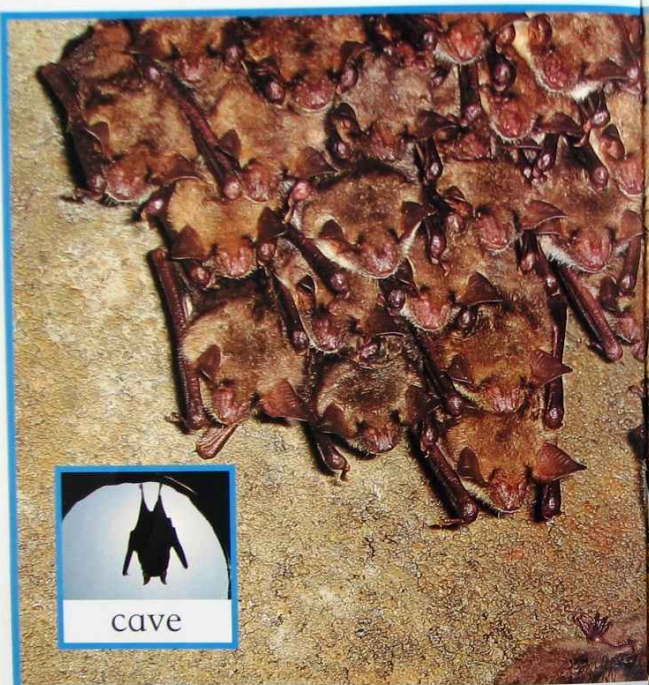


den



The dormouse looks in.  
The bear's teeth are huge!  
The dormouse trembles ...  
then scurries by.





cave

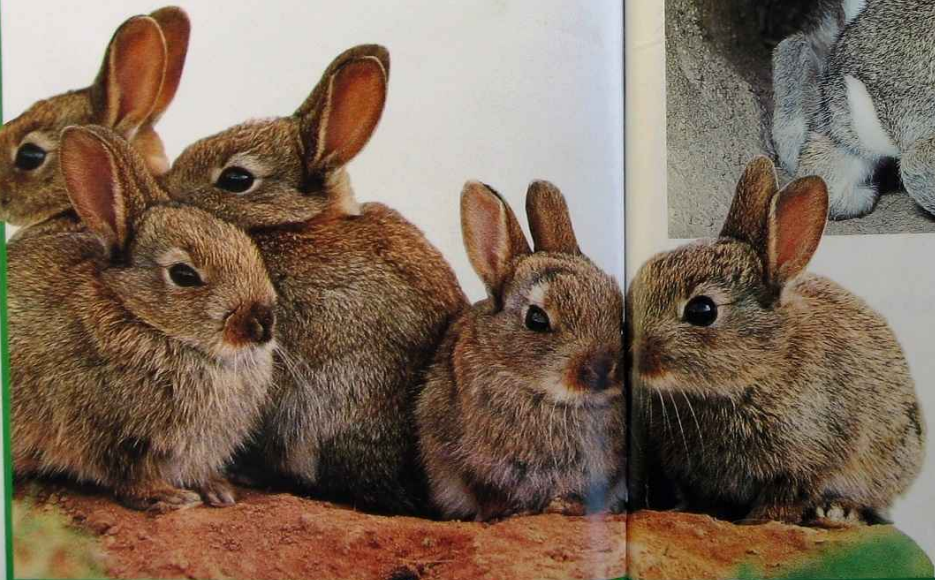
Bats hang in a cave  
and cling to the rock.  
They huddle together  
and sleep through the winter.

The cave is damp and dark.  
It's too cold for a dormouse.  
The dormouse looks in,  
then scurries by.





A family of rabbits  
hop into their burrow.  
They live underground  
when the weather is cold.  
But there are too many rabbits  
to make room for a dormouse.

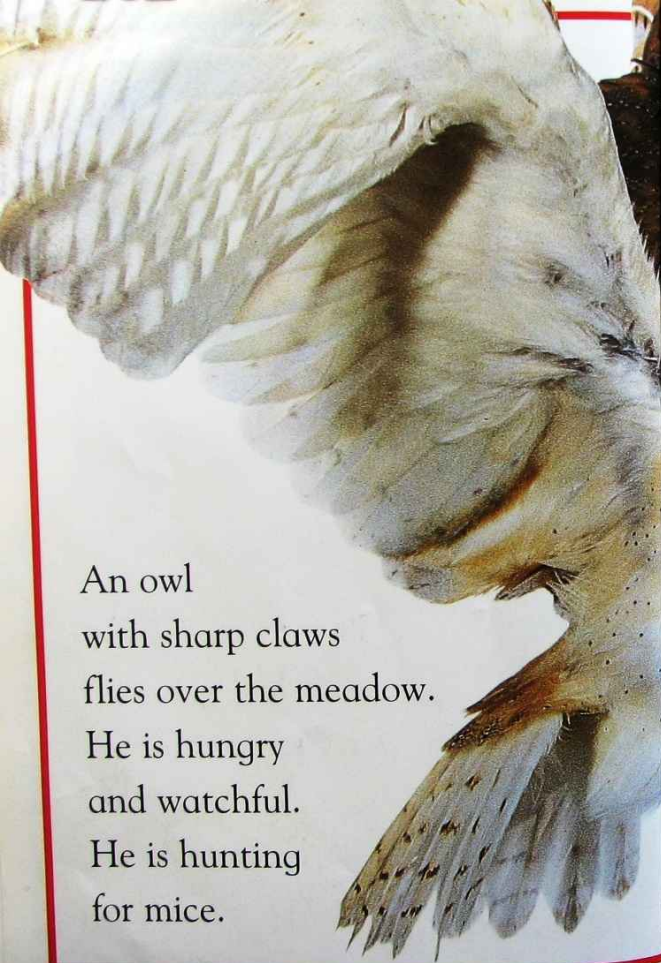


burrow


The dormouse  
looks in,  
then scurries by.








An owl  
with sharp claws  
flies over the meadow.  
He is hungry  
and watchful.  
He is hunting  
for mice.



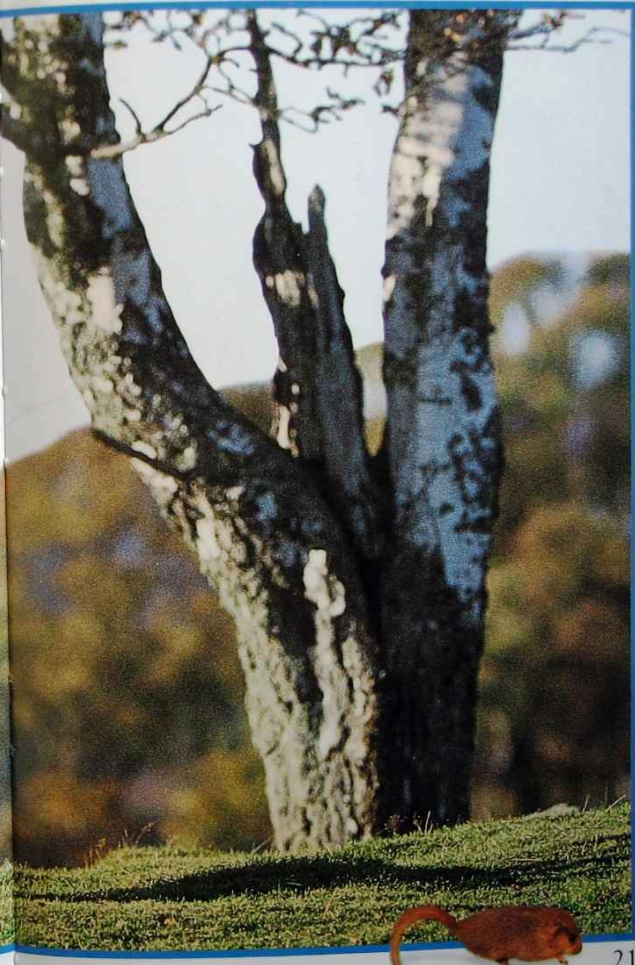
The owl swoops!  
The dormouse  
hides in a bush.



Where can she find  
a safe bed  
for the winter?

A deer comes to the meadow.  
She nibbles the grass.  
Her coat has grown thick  
for the cold winter weather.

The dormouse shivers in the wind,  
then scurries by.



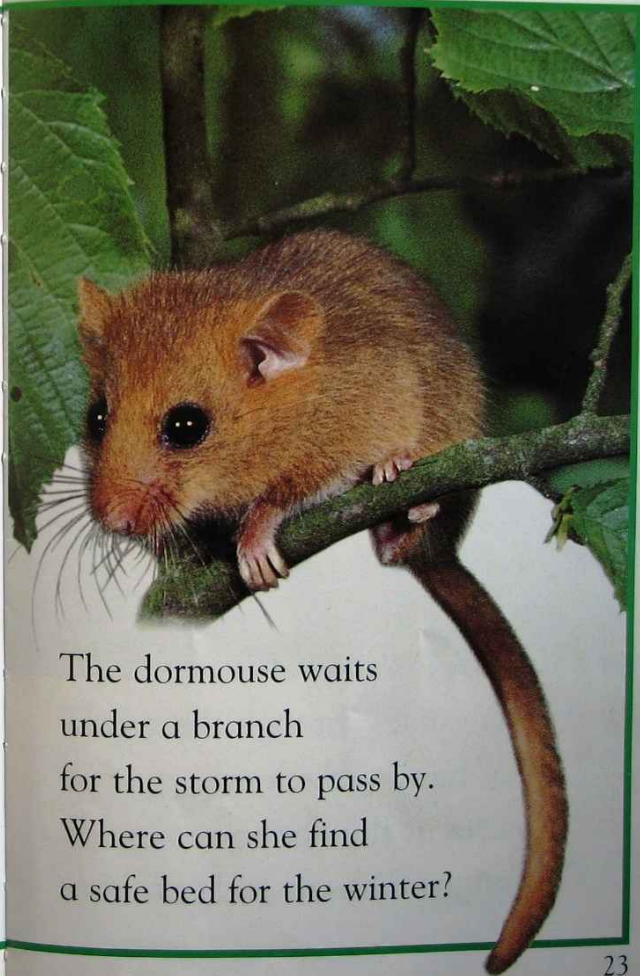


A storm is coming.  
The sky has turned black.

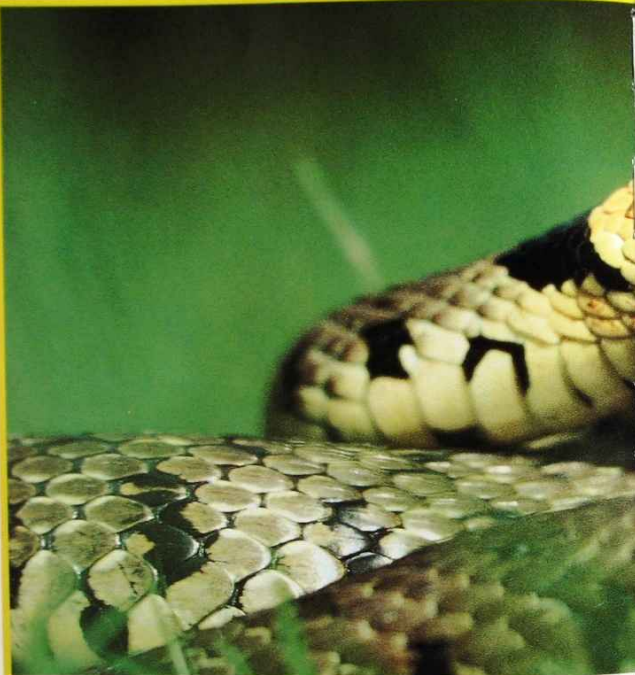
Bees fly home  
to their hive.



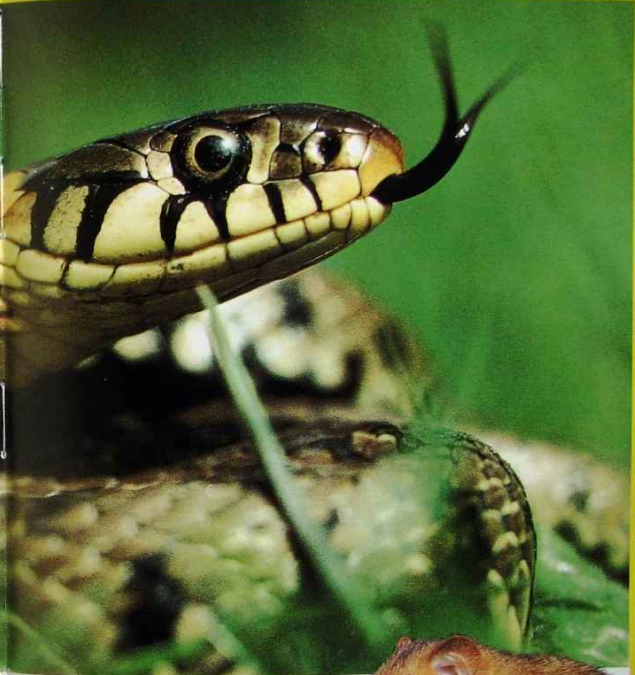
Ants run to their nest.



The dormouse waits  
under a branch  
for the storm to pass by.  
Where can she find  
a safe bed for the winter?



A snake slides through the grass.  
He has hungry black eyes.  
He stares at the dormouse.  
His tongue flicks in and out.



The dormouse  
is trapped.  
She's too scared  
to move.



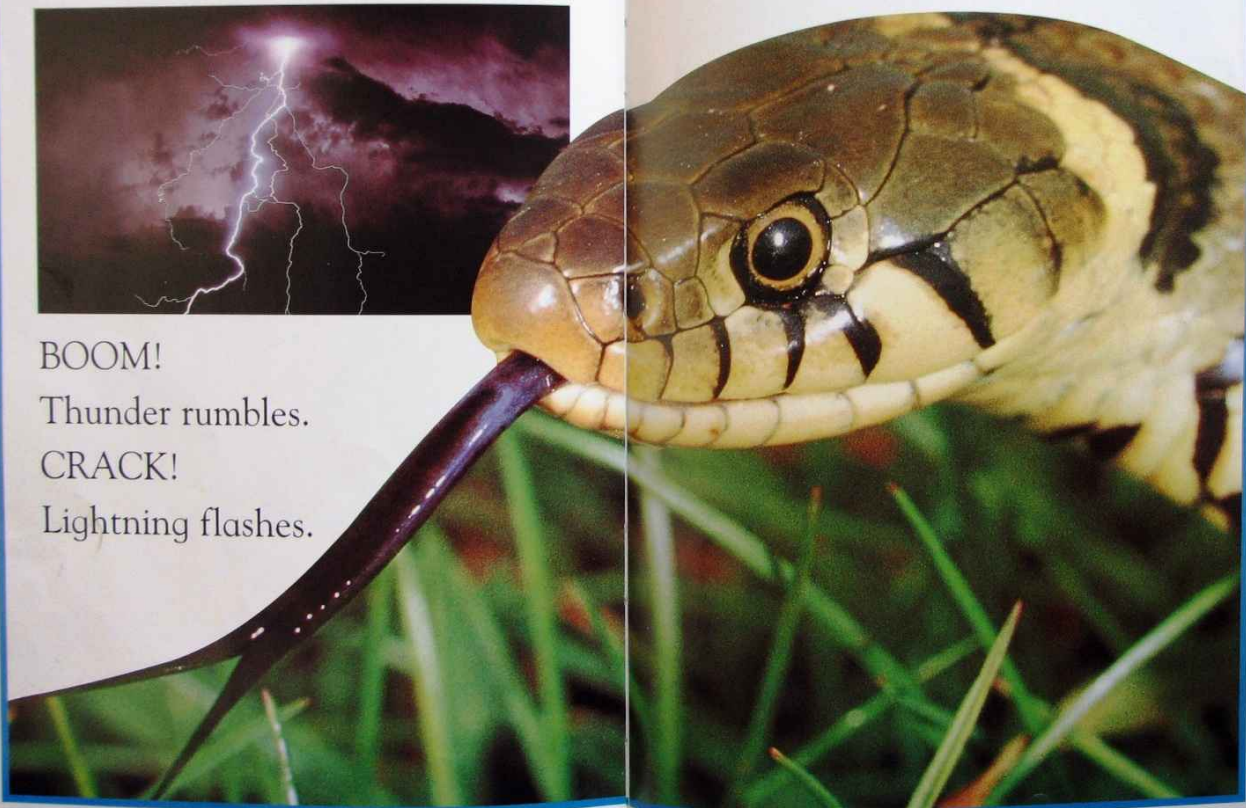


The snake slithers closer.  
His forked tongue comes nearer.

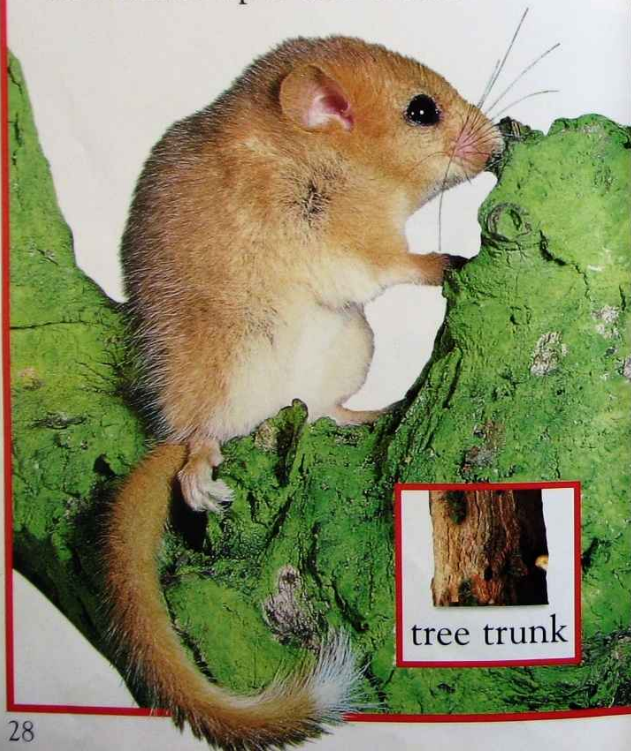


BOOM!  
Thunder rumbles.  
CRACK!  
Lightning flashes.

The snake stops for a second,  
then shoots into the grass.



The dormouse runs  
through the meadow.  
Her heart pounds like a drum.  
She climbs up a tree trunk.



tree trunk



She crawls into a hole.  
She finds a place  
that is safe and dry!





Snow falls on the meadow.  
The ground is  
frozen and hard.  
Snug in the tree hole,  
the dormouse is sleeping.  
Her long, fluffy tail  
is wrapped tightly  
around her.



Her search is over.  
The dormouse is safe.  
At last she has found  
her bed for the winter!



# Picture Word List



meadow

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burrow

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stump

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hive

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tree trunk

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